

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

Journal of Archaeology, Science, and Art.

No 17—1856.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 21st.

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June 19, 1856.

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THE COLLECTION OF NATIONAL ANTIQUITIES FORMED BY MR. WHINCOPP, OF WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK.

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REVIEWS.

The Crimean Expedition. Chronicles of the War in the East from its Commencement to the Signing of the Treaty of Peace. By the Baron de Bazancourt. Translated by Robert Howe Gould, M.A. 2 vols. Low, Son, and Co.

If this may not be called the French official report (*ante*, p. 374), it is at least an authorised history of the war. The Baron de Bazancourt himself proclaims this at the opening of his book with no small flourish of trumpets. "Charged, by his Excellency Monsieur Fortoul, Minister of Public Instruction, to proceed to the Crimea to collect all the documents relative to this glorious expedition, in order to write its history, I started at the beginning of January, 1855, accredited to the Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the East, by his Excellency the Marshal-Minister of War," Canrobert, who tolerated no newspaper reporters in his camp, could not but receive with courtesy a chronicler thus accredited. The tent of every General was open to him, and the journals of the various divisions of the army, as well as of all the operations of the campaign and the siege, were submitted to his inspection. Colonel Raoul, Major of the Trenches, gave to him the hospitality of his dwelling, the house of the clock tower, the central point of the French siege works. Here he was at the fountain-head of authentic information, and from the mouths of the chief actors in the events that were passing he learned the acts that were recorded in his journal. In addition to the details collected on the spot, and those of which he was himself an eye-witness, the Baron, on his return to France, had access to the archives of the Minister of War, and to the private despatches from the Commander-in-Chief. His book has therefore a semi-official character, and is moreover stamped with the highest authority, by being dedicated, with permission, to the Emperor of the French.

An introductory chapter presents an exposition of the causes of the war, due prominence being given to the disputes about the Holy Places, as might be expected in a French statement of the case. It would be tedious to revert here to any of the diplomatic perplexities that preceded the rupture of the allies with Russia, or to trace the events of the first year of the war, all of which are already well known in this country. The part of M. de Bazancourt's history which will be examined with most interest is that which relates to the siege of Sebastopol, and the Crimean campaign, on certain points of which, after all that has been published, there was still room for fuller information. When the Emperor gave up the idea of going in person to the Crimea, he wrote a detailed plan of operations to General Canrobert:—

"The plan of operations was, according to the orders of the Emperor, about to be communicated to the generals-in-chief: but General Canrobert, by a presentiment which soon after was realized, did not shut his eyes to the difficulties which were about to arise; and in consequence he wrote the following private despatch:—

"The three generals-in-chief are about to be called upon to assume the offensive against the exterior army, their object of attack being Simpheropol and Bakshiserai; but, in these grave circumstances, I cannot help deploring the absence

of a generalissimo; some man of great authority and high position, and sufficiently old experience, to command the respect of all."

Upon which M. de Bazancourt observes:—"This will always be in every army the essential point, as from the want of unity in the chief command must always result delays, hesitations, and differences.

"That, it cannot be denied, was the great stumbling-block in the way of the Crimean expedition; it existed always; at every moment creating obstacles and delays, and throwing insurmountable difficulties around that perilous enterprise.

"Lord Raglan had a decided dislike to the plan of operating on the exterior.

"At first he desired, in concert with Omer Pacha, to operate by Eupatoria; but the disadvantages of that movement were so evident, so incontestable, and so clearly enumerated in the plan of campaign, that the two allied generals were constrained to yield to the just observations of the French general.

"Then arose in the council a new difficulty;—the road from Alouchta to Simpheropol appeared to Lord Raglan too exposed, and he considered that from Baidar to Bakshiserai preferable. It was also evident that Lord Raglan yielded from weariness of discussion, and not from conviction; and the consequence was, that at each instant, and in every question of detail, the tacit opposition of his mind made itself felt, without his intending it.

"In face of the terrible and doubtful chances of a general assault, and of the perpetual menace of the north side of the town, which our attacks could not attain, and which would always escape from us,—General Canrobert, after so many disappointed hopes, and so many unexpected and unfavourable events, attached to the projected operation so great an importance for the success of the campaign, that he did not hesitate to make the sacrifice of himself, to what he regarded as the capital point of the situation.

"In order to arrive promptly at a successful result, he proposed to Lord Raglan to give up to him (the English General) the supreme command, and he most earnestly entreated Omer Pacha to follow his example, and to act under the orders of Lord Raglan.

"His Lordship was for an instant astonished at this proposition; for there was in it a self-denial for the public good, often difficult for even the most elevated minds. It was, besides, a heavy responsibility, the sudden weight of which perhaps alarmed the English General. He at first refused, then hesitated, then accepted; and afterwards demanded that the French troops should undertake to occupy and defend the English trenches.

"That strange proposition could not be accepted. The development of our lines already demanded for daily guard a large number of troops, and it was not possible, without serious inconvenience, and an increase of the daily loss of life, to augment the number. The English trenches could be occupied by the English alone. To each army the responsibility of its own works. The General refused. From that moment there were no means of coming to an understanding. Two conferences, the first of which lasted nearly seven hours, could not vanquish the repugnance of Lord Raglan.

"The first blow sustained by the good relations which, until then, had existed between the two Generals-in-Chief, was the recall of the Kertch expedition; and the refusal of Lord Raglan to co-operate with the plan of attack proposed to him by General Canrobert, was the last.

"In consequence of this refusal, the position of the General-in-Chief of the French army, with respect to the troops whom he commanded, and to the Chief of the English army, became almost untenable."

Such is the formal explanation of the retirement of Canrobert from the command. The magnanimity of his conduct toward his successor, Pelissier, gained for him unbounded

respect, and M. de Bazancourt records, in a dramatic way, the touching scene that occurred between the two Generals. In the statement of the causes of disagreement between the English and French commanders, Canrobert is said to receive with surprise the "strange proposition" to occupy a portion of the English lines. "To each army the responsibility of its own works." This is rather inconsistent with statements in an earlier period of the narrative, such as these:—

"In answer to my pressing requests," writes General Canrobert, in a private despatch dated the 9th January, 'Lord Raglan and the Lieutenant-General commanding the English Engineers have just addressed to me some very detailed documents, from which it appears necessary for our army to undertake a part of the siege which had been originally allotted to our allies. Strong arms and hearty good-will will not be wanting on our part; and, from the time that the state of the roads will permit it, I shall occupy myself directly with this new attack, and shall neglect nothing to enable it to give assistance to our own, without which the latter are paralysed.

"Everything requires me, in the interest of the common cause, to occupy myself directly (by the consent of Lord Raglan) with the English works. But until the return of the fine weather this will be difficult, and even impossible."

Although it is almost wholly with the French operations of the siege that the Baron's report is occupied, the incidental notices of what passed in the camp and in the works of the allies are not unimportant. In spite of the softening down of these passages through the writer's courtesy, it is humiliating to peruse his illustrations of British mismanagement and inefficiency. To the valour and endurance of the army he bears willing and honourable testimony, but in all other respects it is generally in a tone of pity and surprise that he has to speak of the English proceedings. Here is a glimpse of the two camps in November, 1854:—

"Reinforcements reached us by nearly every vessel; and these living souvenirs of our country warmed our hearts and doubled our courage. Never was an army in the field the object of more enlightened or of more vigilant care. The anxious solicitude of the Emperor had foreseen everything. Thousands of tents and huts arrived; vessels laden with winter clothing and overcoats of sheepskin for our soldiers, came daily to Kamiesch. Provisions were accumulated in the port, and the army could receive a daily ration of wine or of brandy; a very important thing for the cure of the sick and for the preservation of the health of the effective."

"The English, alas! were far from being so well off. The losses which they had experienced from the tempest of the 14th, and the improvidence, perhaps, of their military administration, which was not so minutely and regularly organised as ours, left them more exposed to the severe trials of the first and most rigorous assaults of the winter. But the courage of that valiant army remained unshaken, although with profound grief we saw it daily reduced by sickness, and but slowly advancing that part of the siege which was assigned to it."

When the French were ready for renewing the bombardment, the English were struggling for subsistence against cold and hunger:—

"Was the portion of the works of attack intrusted to the English army completed? Were the batteries of our allies armed? Alas, despite their good will, despite all their efforts, they were far from the result which they sought to attain. Increasing sickness daily thinned the ranks of these troops, superb in combat, but unhabitu-ated to the rude trials of privation, vigil, and suffering,

and of labour by day and night. Their means of transport were, moreover, very insufficient for so heavy an undertaking; their horses died by hundreds, and those that survived were scarcely fit for service. This enforced delay of the execution of the plan of attack, caused by the situation of the English, rendered the position every day more embarrassing.

And again, after stating that the French were ready for the bombardment and the assault:—

"What was the situation of our allies at this time?"

"The English army," writes the General-in-Chief, "undergoes privations and sufferings, which, unhappily, it is not in my power to relieve. Its effective strength diminishes to such a degree, its draught and saddle-horses are so enfeebled, their numbers are so reduced,—that it has great difficulty in transporting to its camp even the necessary supplies of food: it cannot therefore,—even with the addition of the assistance which we are so happy to give it,—arm and man its batteries, as should be done, in order to act efficaciously in concert with our army."

"The courage of the English soldiers was always the same; but it could not be concealed that their health was unable to resist the exposure and fatigue which each successive day inflicted upon them. They fell sick and died in alarming numbers; and to such a degree, that we were obliged to ask ourselves if this English army, so valiant and so splendid, when it came, in numbers superior to our own, to take upon our right, a part of the attack of Sebastopol;—whether it would not soon cease to exist as an army."

The purport of these and many such passages is to show that the English caused fatal delay, giving the Russians time to strengthen and increase the works of defence. Some particular statements admit of reply or explanation, but we fear that the general accuracy of the narrative in the parts of it relating to our share in the war can scarcely be impugned. Much forbearance is evidently shown in the criticisms and the censures on our military organization and the conduct of the war, while frank and generous praise is bestowed on the bravery and perseverance of our troops. To France belongs the chief military glory of this war, the chronicles of which are written by the Baron de Bazancourt in a manner highly flattering to the pride of the nation in the exploits of its army. As a favourable and characteristic specimen of the dramatic style of narrative, we quote part of the account of the close of the battle of Inkermann, where the French came up to turn the fortunes of the day:—

"The fog had disappeared, and the combatants could see each other. The dead lay in heaps. It was on the redoubt, which, as we have already mentioned, was built on the side of the plateau, facing the Tchernaya, that the ever-increasing masses spent their fury. The regiment of Guards fought hand to hand, inside and around that open outwork. The Russians gained possession of it, and were in turn repulsed by the desperate efforts of those admirable soldiers, who fell one after the other, without giving ground. At one time, the enemy completely surrounded the residue of that fine regiment, and the roar of joy which was uttered by their troops resounded like a sepulchral echo. The Zouaves, the Foot-Chasseurs, and the Algerine sharpshooters awaited only the signal. General Bosquet rode along their ranks, reminding them of their former glory and prowess:

"Come on, my valiant Zouaves! come on, my brave Chasseurs!" he cried;—"show yourselves sons of fire," he said in Arabic to the Algerines.

"A mighty shout responded to the call, and mounted above the roar of the battle.

"All dash forward, taking advantage of the inequalities of the ground, sometimes sheltering them-

selves behind the brushwood in order to load their guns, sometimes dashing on, along the uneven ground. To see these Africans, you would say that a troop of wild animals had broken loose; the balls of the Russians cannot find them; they disappear, they come on again, they lie down, they rise, but they never cease fighting.

"They are panthers leaping among the bushes!" cried General Bosquet, as he looked at them with admiration.

"This was a strange kind of warfare, resembling the true African combat, with its dark mysteries, its surprises, and its ambushes: sometimes they are separated and scattered: at other times, by a marvellous union of thought, they close their ranks, and rush headlong upon the amazed Russians.

"If the defence of the plateau of Inkermann, where so much blood was wasted, was heroic and indefatigable, the attack was no less bold, energetic, and resolute.

"The Russian officers brought back their men twenty times to the charge, and formed anew their decimated battalions; supported as they were by fresh troops, who advanced with frenzied cries, and were answered by fierce shouts from the columns crowded upon the side of the hill or in the winding gorges of the pass.

"On the left, upon the ridge in the rear, the various turns of the battle were followed by our artillery in conjunction with that of the English, and assisted by some fresh pieces which Colonel Dickson had been able to drag up, along the miry soil: the discharge of this artillery caused great loss to the Russians, and hurled volleys of grape and ball upon their compact masses.

"At length the approaches to the plateau were guarded: a brigade of the 3rd French Division, commanded by General de Monet, was posted at a few hundred paces behind the fixed battery of the English, ready to advance in case of need; the second brigade of this division, under the orders of Prince Napoleon, marched rapidly towards Inkermann; General Bourbaki held the Russians in check upon the left; General Morris was posted with the 4th Chasseurs, behind the crest of the Mamelon on the extreme right, ready to support the movements of the infantry. Such was the position, at the moment when the Russians concentrated their attack for the last time, upon the slope where the small English redoubt stood. Their deep masses could not deploy; crowded and almost choked in the hollows which led the way to the higher ground, they were a mark for our rifles and our artillery.

"Not a ball was sent in vain. Whole files were cut down; the dead rose in heaps; for the enemy was no longer favoured by the mist, and the disadvantage of ground more than counterbalanced the superiority of numbers.

"Confusion spreads in their ranks; for they can scarcely see the foe who strikes them, hidden, as that foe is behind thickets, or concealed by ramparts of dead.

"Then a vast shout filled the air: General D'Autemarre ordered his battalions to advance; Colonel Wimpffen was at the head of his Algerine Rifles; Commandants Dubos and Montaudon were with their Zouaves. A human avalanche broke loose at once;—the Russians were petrified; they fancied that the earth was opening and sending forth new combatants: it was no longer a battle, but a frightful massacre: the routed columns knew not how to escape death, and the living fell mingled with the dead.

"All is ended; the last columns of the Russians are in retreat, and General Dannenberg collects his troops in the narrow valley, where the Tchernaya discharges itself into the harbour; while his artillery, having for the most part quitted its position, unites its fire with that of the batteries and the ships' guns, to protect his retreat."

It is right to mention that some of M. de Bazancourt's statements with regard to the English army have been objected to by Her Majesty's ministers, and this is said

to be the cause of the recent repudiation of the official authority of the book in the 'Moniteur.'

History of Richard Cromwell and the Restoration of Charles II. By M. Guizot. Translated by Andrew R. Scoble. Two volumes. Bentley.

THERE is hardly any period in our history so full of instruction and of interest as that which was marked by the dying struggles of our short-lived Commonwealth, and by the restoration of the Stuarts to the throne of these kingdoms. Indeed, at no time in the existence of any people is its national character so clearly intelligible, or so prominently thrown into relief, as in those transitional phases that present themselves in connexion with a revolution in its form of government. Released from all political formulas, rent by intestine discord, the prey of ambitious and designing or fanatical and factious men, at such a time, woe to that nation, the great bulk of whom are not actuated by principles of morality, as well as by sentiments of moderation, of patriotism, and of common sense. For such there is no hope but in a dictator or a despot. The blood which they have spilt will but cement more firmly than ever their own slavery; and perpetuate it until some future generation, wiser and better than themselves, shall redeem their folly, and achieve the freedom of which they were not worthy. But apart from the deep interest which attaches to an investigation into the immediate and remote consequences of abortive revolutions, there is a still deeper source of interest in the opportunity which they afford of studying national characteristics; of observing the effect of the temperament, the political antecedents, the religion, and the social conditions of a people. It is curious to trace the influence of these several items in such great crises—to note, on the one hand, how the love of the practicable checks the mad projects of dreaming visionaries; how a wide-spread and sincere appreciation of freedom thwarts the schemes of would-be tyrants; how political franchises wisely conferred in days gone by, and now dearly prized, present an impenetrable barrier alike to the designs of despotism and the frenzy of levellers; how enlightenment, morality, religion, step in to ward off national disaster and degradation, at a moment when both seem imminent—or to observe, on the other hand, the ebullition of fanaticism and civil strife unassuaged by such benignant influences. We have not now to deal with the whole of that period which is included in our first great revolution, but only with that portion of it which intervened between the death of Oliver Cromwell and the restoration of Charles II. Before Richard Cromwell was called upon to assume the Protectorate, all the grand tragical events of the drama had transpired; and now the Revolution was fast verging towards its decline. The brilliant successes of Oliver at home and abroad no longer overawed zealous republicans, and rendered hopeless the attempts of devoted royalists. The nation which for a while was held together by the gigantic grasp of the usurper, and had, at least, the unity and coherence which comes of tyranny, now that he was no more, began to range itself under the old banners of its hostile factions. The time had come when cavaliers and Cromwellians,

parliamentarians and fifth-monarchy men, presbyterians and anabaptists, might once again marshal their forces for the new struggle that appeared to be unavoidable. The occasion was opportune also for the Stuarts themselves to prosecute their appeal for aid to the great continental powers, who awoke as from a nightmare upon the death of their, no less than England's, dictator. To add to the embarrassment of the position, there was considerable doubt whether Cromwell had, in virtue of the power conferred upon him by Parliament, named his successor:—

"His family and most intimate advisers declared that, during the night which preceded his death, in the presence of four or five of them, he had named his son Richard; but there was no authentic document, signed by the Protector, to confirm this declaration. On the other hand, there was an accredited report that, more than a year previously, he had executed a secret deed, in favour, it was said, of his son-in-law, Fleetwood. This paper had been sought for during Cromwell's illness, by his own order, but had not been found; and all felt the danger that would arise from a conflict between two pretenders to the Protectorate, while there was a royal pretender in the field. Two of the men who were at once most thoroughly devoted to Cromwell's family and most influential with his party, Thurloe and Fiennes, proceeded at once to wait upon the principal leaders of the army, among others on Desborough and Fleetwood himself: and frankly explaining to them the state of affairs, demanded of them whether, even supposing the document in question should be afterwards discovered, they would pledge themselves to acknowledge and respect the last will and parcel declaration of Cromwell in favour of his son Richard. Fleetwood and Desborough unhesitatingly gave the required pledge; the Privy Council was immediately summoned; and three persons who had been present during the last moments of the Protector's life, Goodwin his chaplain, and Major-Generals Whalley and Goffe, were called in, and attested upon oath that he had appointed Richard as his successor. Desborough then rose, and adjured all present, in the name of the living God, if any doubt or dissatisfaction remained in their minds, at once to declare it. But all gave their unqualified consent to the appointment. The Council then proceeded in a body to offer Richard their congratulations, and to condole with him on his father's death."

Richard appears to have received their congratulations with neither satisfaction nor regret, but rather with simple acquiescence. "He was neither a source of strength, nor a cause of embarrassment, to his friends." A true Epicurean, he used the goods which the gods gave him, and was equally content, whether enjoying country sports during the day on his estate at Hursley, and carousing by night with the neighbouring cavaliers; or assuming the reins of government, which were thrust into his hand at a time when none but a man of iron nerve and unflinching resolution could possibly retain them. In such a case, it mattered little that the inhabitants of the metropolis, and all the chief towns (with the single exception of Oxford), had favourably received the proclamation announcing his accession; that no opposition was made to the announcement at Dunkirk; that all his father's old generals and admirals had assembled and resolved to rally round the son of their benefactor; that "addresses expressive of adherence to his government, passionately enthusiastic or basely servile in their tone, reached him from all quarters;" or that the French ambassador received instructions to convey to him the most friendly assurances. Of what avail, if the man himself

cared for none of these things, or if he was incapable of turning any of them to good account? Notwithstanding all the discontent and discord which lay beneath the surface of this seeming satisfaction and harmony, a man fit for the occasion—a man of character and of energy—might have established his power upon such an auspicious foundation. Without any strong convictions on the subject in which it was of vital importance not to waver, with intimate and powerful associations hostile to his own position, and with a puerile love of pleasure which took fright at the slightest difficulties, who can be surprised that Richard Cromwell soon filled his friends with alarm, and inspired his legion of covert and open enemies with the wildest hopes? "Robespierre will do great things," said Mirabeau, "for he believes every word he says." Richard Cromwell believed neither in himself nor in the justice of his cause, what wonder that he failed to achieve anything worth the record. What wonder that—

"It was not long before the first blow was struck at his authority. After sundry interviews, in which the ill-humour and arrogant pretensions of the malcontents had been only indirectly manifested, two or three hundred officers, headed by Fleetwood, or rather pushing forward Fleetwood at their head, presented a petition to Richard, on the 14th of October, in which, 'to restore,' as they said, 'that good old cause, which had long lain asleep,' they demanded that the commander-in-chief of the army should be henceforward, not the Protector himself, but some officer who had fought with it in its days of trial; that he should have the disposal of commissions, and that no officers should be dismissed but by sentence of a court-martial."

Almost the only manly and dignified act of his short-timed government was the spirited, though conciliating reply, which Richard gave to this insulting and unconstitutional petition: and for this there is little room for doubt that he was indebted to the wise advice of Thurloe, who prepared the speech which Richard delivered to the assembled officers. Thurloe foresaw that to consent to their request was to place the government and the country at the mercy of the army; and that its result must necessarily be the overthrow of the Protectorate. He therefore adhered to the basis of the then constitution, which was the petition and advice of the Parliament of 1656. In addition to the difficulties attending the doubtful allegiance of the generals, and the reviving spirit of faction which was commencing to manifest itself in the country, a still greater and more pressing embarrassment presented itself in the lamentably exhausted condition of the Exchequer. The pay of the army was greatly in arrear; the funeral expenses of the late Protector amounted to no less than £80,000; he had not, as was generally supposed at the time, died in the possession of considerable wealth, but, on the contrary, in comparative poverty; money must be had by his son and successor at whatever cost, and that without a moment's delay. Its want was becoming intolerable. How did Richard endeavour to procure it? His first attempt was wholly worthy of himself, as it was unworthy of his position. He applied to Cardinal Mazarin for a loan of £50,000, for which he offered adequate security. His application was met by the success which it merited—absolute refusal, accompanied by diplomatic explanation. It was said that Louis XIV. had not a shilling more than he required for pressing calls. No other help, then, but to summon a parliament! A

parliament was indispensable, for without it money was unattainable. We saw the first false step of Richard in relation to foreign powers; let us now for a moment look at the folly which he displayed in his administration of affairs at home. His policy was characterised at once by weakness and audacity, both of which qualities sprang from fear. He adopted the bold expedient of tampering with the elections, which were not conducted according to the system introduced by the Long Parliament and adopted by Oliver. The old traditions of the monarchy were revived, that the government might more easily triumph in the boroughs. With still greater audacity, he allotted to Ireland and Scotland thirty representatives each, and placed their election almost wholly in the hands of the military authorities. So with the House of Peers, he accepted it as constituted by his father, but summoned its members after royal precedents. "It will thus be seen," says M. Guizot, "that no legal and consistent principle governed the formation of the parliament; ancient and modern examples were appealed to in turn; precedents were borrowed alike from the monarchy and the revolution, from tradition and from tyranny." It is impossible not to be struck with the resemblance between some of the acts of Richard Cromwell and those of Louis Napoleon, both as President of the French Republic and as Emperor of France. To this, no doubt, we owe something of the eloquence of M. Guizot, in his works on the English revolution. It is, indeed, very observable, that except when he comes to deal with some phase of our revolution, or of the character of Richard, which has an analogy near home, M. Guizot is generally somewhat prosaic, though always perspicuous and instructive.

The Parliament once assembled, there was no want of exciting topics, on which the factions might have an early opportunity of testing their respective strengths. The extreme republicans, led by Hazelrigg and Vane, rushed into the fray, eager with expectation of its result. Thurloe was the leader of the Cromwellians. Lambert represented the egotism of the time. He and a few others hoped to play their own game in the approaching opportunity. The royalists yet maintained a remarkable tranquillity. The leaning of the army was as various as the opinions of its generals. Mordaunt thought that a few detected conspiracies, and an abortive attempt or two at insurrection on the part of the cavaliers, afforded the only hope of saving the Protectorate. Amidst such discordant elements Richard alone was tranquil and indifferent; but, in justice to him, we should add, that he was both upon principle. His authority was openly insulted in the House of Commons, and repudiated by the council of officers who met at Wallingford House; and yet he refused to accept the aid or advice of those who were prepared for strong measures. At the time when Desborough, Lambert, Sydenham, and Fleetwood were plotting for his overthrow, Lord Falconbridge, Whalley, Lord Broghill, and others, urged upon him to take his enemies by surprise:—

"'It is time to look about you,' said Lord Howard: 'empires and command are not now the question. Your person, your life, are in peril: you are the son of Cromwell, show yourself worthy to be his son. This business requires a bold stroke, and must be supported by a good head. Do not suffer yourself to be daunted. Fleetwood, Lambert, Desborough, and Vane are the contrivers of al

this. I will rid you of them; do you stand by me, and only back my zeal for your honour with your name; my head shall answer for the consequence.' Ingoldsby added his entreaties to those of Howard, and offered to become personally responsible for Lambert, who was considered their most dangerous enemy. Richard was racked by painful perplexity. 'I have never done anybody any harm,' he said, 'and never will; I will not have a drop of blood spilt for the preservation of my greatness, which is a burden to me.' Howard indignantly remonstrated with him on this want of courage: 'Do you think,' he asked, 'this moderation of yours will repair the wrong your family has committed by its elevation? Everybody knows that by violence your father procured the death of the late King, and kept his sons in banishment: mercy in the present state of affairs is unseasonable. Lay aside this pusillanimity; every moment is precious; your enemies spend this time in acting, which we waste in consulting.' But Richard was not to be persuaded. 'Talk no more of it,' he said, 'my resolution is fixed. I am thankful for your friendship, but violent counsels suit not with me.' Howard left Whitehall, having discharged his duty as a loyal servant to the Cromwell family; and now, free from all obligation towards them, he devoted his energies, in concert with Lord Broghill, to preparing the way for the restoration of Charles Stuart."

We have here a fair specimen of the character of Richard's attempt at government. Whatever resolution he possessed was simply that he would not resort to violence. In this he never wavered; and, if he is to be judged by the result, it is impossible to deny him the praise that is due to consistency, if not to success, and to a peaceful issue from most doubtful and dangerous premises. The time had come, however, when the people of this country longed for a deliverance from civil strife. The puritan had proved himself to be more intolerable as a master than any member of the deposed family of Stuart; nor was the nation willing to be ruled by an army which they themselves hired and paid; on the other hand, the army refused to be a tool in the hands of demagogues and factionists. It only required the self-reliance and energy of a Monk to bring back the exiled monarch, for the country was quite prepared to celebrate his return, and to receive him with joy.

A large part of the present work is necessarily devoted to an account of Monk's proceedings in the Restoration; and, as might have been expected, M. Guizot here shows to great advantage. With a remarkable power of subtle analysis, he enters into all the complicated motives which presented themselves to the mind of Monk in that strange crisis. From the time that Monk conceives the notion of restoring the exiled Stuarts, his situation becomes one of the most intensely dramatic to be found in our history; and M. Guizot has drawn it with the hand of a master. Apart from its historical value, this portion of the work will be read with the deepest interest. A number of most valuable historical documents, now published for the first time, also tends to increase its interest as well as its worth. These papers consist principally of the correspondence of M. de Bordeaux, the French ambassador at St. James's, with Cardinal Mazarin; and are invaluable as containing the real opinions of an intelligent and observant foreigner upon the very anomalous and perplexing state of things which existed in England during the protectorate of Richard and the decline of the Commonwealth.

The work, generally, is characterised by a calm and philosophic spirit; and the author seldom goes out of his way to relieve the main

narrative by any of those thousand little episodes which are so abundant in all revolutions. Here and there, however, we meet with something of the kind, but given in the dry, matter-of-fact style common to the whole school of the French *doctrinaires*, of whom M. Guizot is head. Here is a sample of what we allude to:—

"The day now drew near when the Parliament was at length to pronounce its own dissolution. On the evening of the 15th of March, a number of persons, citizens and people, were assembled in front of the Royal Exchange; at about five o'clock, a man came up with a ladder, a pot of paint, and a brush; he was accompanied by some soldiers, as though he had come by the order or with the consent of the General. He rested his ladder against a wall, in a niche of which, twenty years before, a statue of Charles I. had stood; but after the King's execution the statue had been pulled down, and the following inscription in Latin written in its place: 'Exit tyrannus, regum ultimus, anno libertatis Angliæ restitutæ primo, annoque Domini 1648.' The painter went up, effaced this inscription with his brush, and, throwing his cap in the air, shouted, 'God bless King Charles the Second!' His proceedings were hailed by the crowd with loud acclamations; and bonfires were immediately kindled in the courtyard of the Exchange, and in the neighbouring streets."

Upon the whole, this book will maintain M. Guizot's reputation as a philosophical historian, and will be of great value to students of English history, especially on account of the large collection of illustrative letters which the author gives in the appendix, and from which he derives a vast amount of special information, now for the first time published to the world.

Memoirs of John Kitto, D.D., F.S.A., Editor of the Pictorial Bible. By J. E. Ryland, M.A., with a Critical Estimate of his Life and Writings, by Professor Eadie, D.D. Edinburgh: Oliphant and Sons.

THE name of Dr. Kitto will always be honourably distinguished in literature as a commentator on the sacred scriptures. His 'Pictorial Bible,' his 'Cyclopædia of Biblical Literature,' and 'Daily Bible Illustrations,' are books of standard merit, and contain an immense amount of valuable and varied information. Many who have been entertained and instructed by these works will be pleased to learn more of their author. The *Memoirs* now published will abundantly satisfy any curiosity on this point. They form a volume of 700 pages, and only present in detail the story of the early part of his life, the biographer promising another volume if the public demand should invite it. The voracity for books of religious biography is so great, that the continuation will probably be expected; but with all our respect for Dr. Kitto, and interest in his history, we have found the present *Memoirs* too diffuse, and think the work would have been vastly improved by condensation. This is, however, a matter of taste, and those who have plenty of leisure may regret that the *Memoirs* are not more voluminous. They are compiled chiefly from Dr. Kitto's own letters and journals, and great credit is due to the editor for the labour he has bestowed in arranging for the press the manuscripts committed to his charge. We cannot afford space to give any account of the history of Dr. Kitto, but one or two extracts will, we hope, convey a favourable impression to those who have no acquaintance with the circumstances of his life, and induce them to peruse the *Memoirs*. In the following passage, in

the critical estimate of Dr. Kitto by Professor Eadie of Glasgow, allusion is made to his humble origin and his early struggles, as well as to his career in after life:—

"The deaf boy, unfit to work, and abandoned to himself, used to wade at low-water in Sutton-pool, to fish out pieces of rope or scraps of iron, which were sold to brokers, and actually he made fourpence one week by his labours. But he trod on a broken bottle, and was laid up; and then he resorted to painting, having expended twopence on paper to set himself up in business. He filled his mother's window with the fruits of his handiwork, and earned twopence-halfpenny a week. When this means of exposing his wares lost its novelty, he next erected a stall at Plymouth fair, and did some little bargaining. Compassion for the poor lad may have been as useful to him as his artistic skill. Then he fell upon the device of printing or painting the labels already referred to, and was so engaged, when, to keep him from utter misery, he was lodged in the 'Hospital of the Poor's Portion.' It was much the same with him afterwards. If one thing failed, he tried another: the conclusion of one labour was the beginning of another—either covering people's feet in Plymouth or repairing their mouths in Exeter; setting types in Malta or nursing and tutoring little children in Bagdad; writing for the Penny Magazine at Islington, editing the Cyclopædia at Woking, or completing the cycle with the Daily Illustrations at Camden Town. His letters to myself teemed with projects to occupy him when this last work should be concluded; and they were all more or less connected with Eastern life or biblical illustration. His industry was unceasing—from the period when his thrifty grandame taught her quiet and delicate charge to sew patchwork and kettle-holders, to the period when he felt the week by far too short to turn out in it the expected and necessary amount of copy."

The most instructive portions of the *Memoirs* are those which describe the successful efforts of the deaf and unpatronized boy to educate himself, and afterwards to satisfy his curiosity to visit Eastern countries, and to turn to useful account the information and experience thus acquired. His was a memorable instance of the pursuit of knowledge under difficulties, and valuable are the lessons conveyed by the story of his life. In 1854 a paralytic stroke prevented him from continuing his literary labours. A pension of 100*l.* a year was bestowed by the Queen; but as this ceased with his life, steps were taken by his friends to establish a fund to increase his income, so that he might provide for his numerous family. Committees were formed in London and Edinburgh, and at a public meeting at the latter place Sir John McNeill took the chair, and bore an honourable testimony to the ability and worth of Dr. Kitto:—

"He had first the pleasure of meeting Dr. Kitto in the East—in Persia—more than twenty years ago; and when it was remembered that the leading characteristic of his biblical researches was the skill and truth with which he brought to the sacred writings a living knowledge of Eastern manners, and customs, and traditions, and of the geography and natural history of the East, it might be permitted to him (Sir John McNeill) to look back with pleasure on the time when he was able to assist Dr. Kitto in forming his first ideas of the strange world in which he then found himself, amongst men whose institutions and modes of life were curiously contrasted with our own. Yet no intelligent reader of the Bible could fail to take a keen interest in the manners and customs of that people, because he must at once recognise in them that unchanging Oriental type, the first glimpses of which he had caught from the sacred writings, and which, the more its details were studied, confirmed more and more the accuracy of even the most casual allusions in that wonderful record,

which, viewed merely as the history of a people, apart from higher and holier considerations, bears a stamp of authenticity and fidelity for which we look in vain in the annals of any other race. Kitto's acute and earnest mind seized at once upon this field of research, which he has ever since cultivated with so much success—with such success, indeed, that we are too apt to forget the disadvantages which he had to contend with. Though the ordinary avenue of information was closed to him, without any other aid than his own remarkable abilities, and his own heroic energy, he has placed himself at the head of the living illustrators of the life and manners, the domestic economy, and the natural history of the people and the countries of the Bible. In dealing with such subjects, few men could have avoided indicating some sectarian leaning; but Kitto, a worthy member of the Church of England, cherished within her pale a spirit so truly Catholic, that his writings are equally acceptable to all denominations of Christians."

A list of Dr. Kitto's published works is given in the appendix. The earliest writings by which he became known were his papers in the 'Penny Magazine, 1833-1835, entitled 'The Deaf Traveller.' In 1835-38 appeared 'The Pictorial Bible,' followed rapidly by a succession of works, chiefly of the same class, of which the most important are 'The History of Palestine,' 'The Cyclopædia of Biblical Literature,' and 'The Daily Bible Illustrations,' besides about twenty pictorial volumes, some of which had large circulation, and are still widely popular.

Original Poems; with Translations from Scandinavian and other Poets. By Sophia Milligan. Hurst and Blackett.

Gabriel. By Bessie Rayner Parkes. John Chapman.

Poems. By the Author of "Paul Ferroll." Including a New Edition of Nine Poems by V.; with Former and Recent Additions. Saunders and Otley.

The larger portion of the poems of Sophia Milligan consist of translations from the Swedish, Danish, German, French, Italian, and Spanish, with some of the sonnets of the Portuguese Camoens. Some of the originals are familiarly known in this country, but others are now first translated, and the whole forms an agreeable and varied selection of the poetry of northern and southern Europe. Of the merit of the translations a judgment may be formed from the version of the well-known Battle-Prayer of Körner:—

"Father, I call on Thee!
Round me the thunder of battle is crashing,
Through clouds of smoke the red lightnings are flashing,
Guaider of conflict, I call on Thee,
Father, thou lead me!

"Father, Thou lead me!
Lead me to victory, lead me to death,
Lord, Thy command may dispose of my breath;
Lord, as Thou wilt, so lead me,
God, I acknowledge Thee!

"God, I acknowledge Thee!
As in the rustling of Autumn leaves light,
So in the thunder, the storm of the fight,
Source of all grace, I acknowledge Thee.
Father, Thou bless me!

"Father, Thou bless me!
Lord, in thy hand my existence I lay,
Thou, who hast given it, may'st take it away,
For life and for death, oh bless me,
Father, I praise Thee!

"Father, I praise Thee!
This is no combat for earthly possession,
The holiest our swords now protect from oppression:
Therefore, falling, and conquering, I praise Thee,
God, unto Thee I devote me!

"God, unto Thee I devote me!
When Death in thunder against me is roaring,
When from my veins the red torrent is pouring,
Unto my God I devote me!
Father, I call on Thee!"

Of the original poems, the following is an average specimen:—

"HOMELY MAIDENS.

"Homely maidens, ne'er repine
That ye are not called divine;
For God's likeness ye may bear,
E'en as those esteemed most fair.
Your eyes can take in all Heaven's blue
Like those that emulate its hue;
Your lips can speak as kind a word
As e'er from those more rosy heard;
Ye may obtain as sweet a praise
As e'er did Beauty's colour raise;
For 'tis the praise of worth alone
That echoes in the heart's pure tone;
And shining in each homely face
May be a far diviner grace
Than was in heathen times admired,
When Helen her great Bard inspired.
Oh! homely faces, if from home
Ye have your name, how dear a doom
There bids your smiles become light,
Than all the world bestows more bright!
And if, in every act and will,
God's purposes you would fulfil
Till your soul blend with the divine,
And e'en the earthly form refine,
Need you, O homely maids, repine?"

GABRIEL is a monody, descriptive and eulogistic of Percy Bysshe Shelley. Of Shelley, either as a man or a poet, we are not disposed to say anything here, but merely extract a few passages from the fresh and glowing poem of Miss Parkes, in which his personal and mental career are delineated. The poem is divided into cantos, with headings, such as His Birth, His Teaching, His Singing, The College, The Ring, Italy, The Shipwreck. One of these we quote entire:—

"HIS SINGING.

"My Gabriel on the heavenly mount
Stood waiting for the promised fire,
With coolest lilies from the fount
Of thought he wreath'd his lifted lyre:
And when the heat fell down like dew,
And all the veil was backward roll'd,
The carven flowers bloom'd out anew,
Transfigured into burning gold.

"Sometimes he sang the truths he saw,
In perfect and harmonious rhyme,
A white-robed priest of ancient law,
Interpreting the needs of Time;
And those who give their souls to art,
The scholars of a world-wide school,
Said, 'Here is one of reverent heart,
Who does not scorn the lofty rule.'

"When Gabriel sat beneath the Cross,
Beside the cradle and the grave,
And heavenly gain in earthly loss
With simple music simply gave,
His tender words flew far and wide,
Caught up by peasant as by peer,
And men proclaim'd 'on every side,
'We truly have a poet here!'

"But Gabriel, though he did not shun,
Might not within the Temple dwell,
His soul's great music, once begun,
Swell'd louder than the sweetest bell.
So, ever with a wider sweep,
He broke beyond the bounds of thought,
To realms where shadowy instincts keep
A rescued limit snatch'd from nought.

"Within these subtle dreams he dwelt,
And sang in minors quaint and strange;
A few fine hearts were his, which felt
How true his note, how wide his range;
A few fine spirits with him soar'd,
And knew what seal his nature had,
But those who praised him once, deplored,
And said, with jeers, 'The man is mad.'

"And Gabriel heeded not, but sang
As dauntless as the lark in heaven,
Above the clamour and the clang,
Like some young spirit newly risen.
He threaded with a silver string
All arrows by the Fates allow'd,
Mail-proof himself against their sting,
He flung them back among the crowd!"

The story of Shelley's short and fevered life, and of his sad fate, is strikingly told; but we must refrain from quoting any of the narrative, or of the enthusiastic comments of Miss Parkes, who deems—

"He stands a type of what our race may be,
When life and love and thought are free."

Apart from the main subject of the poem, there are passages of description such as few

writers of our time have equalled. Take, for instance, the opening lines of the canto headed Italy:—

"Who does not know the Lombard Plains,
The Lombard Plains which slumber in the sun?
I saw them last when Autumn's loaded wains
With grape and corn did overflowing run,
When all the air with Autumn scent was sweet,
And the long roads in white and weltering heat,
Straight as a track by which a bird hath flown,
Link'd all the pleasant land from town to town.
When the vine garlands hanging from the caves
Cut the sharp shadow of their dainty leaves
On the hot wall, and nothing broke the hush
Save small birds twittering from bush to bush,
Or woman singing at the cottage door,
Or waggon passing with its sumptuous store.
When little lizards lazily would crawl
Among the melons ripening on the wall,
And the bold urchins with their great black eyes,
In warm nook shelter'd from the melting skies,
Cur'd up in idle comfort, started out,
Following the travellers with prayer and shout
And soft entreaties for at least one coin,
And chorus'd songs which we were fain to join;
Then sank to their siesta once again,
When we through miles of lonely road were fain
To marvel at the silence and the heat,
And old Virgilian verses would repeat
Showing how nature ever was the same!
When even the long trails were turned to flame
Which knit across the fields from tree to tree,
And in the sunshine burn'd right gloriously."

THE volume of poems by the author of 'Paul Ferroll' includes a new edition of 'Nine Poems,' by V., and additional pieces. The two principal poems are entitled 'The Valley of the Morlas,' and 'I Watched the Heavens,' the latter an imaginary vision, in which the spirit is supposed to have a glimpse of the star where the doomed dwell. There is a wild power in the description—Dantesque in style—and many of the ideas are evidently suggested by scenes in the Purgatorio and Inferno of the Italian poet. The dreamer having been wafted to the planet of the living dead, has this as the beginning of the visions:—

"While thus I ponder'd, onward came a form,
Unlike the dream which flatter'd Fancy's sight,
Man's shape he wore, but some internal storm
Defaced the image, and put out its light.
His inward spirit seem'd by thoughts o'ercast
Whose shadow o'er his visage darkly pass'd,
And to his eye that lovely land was dim,
Suggesting nought of peace or joy to him—
He heard no accent in the wind, and floor,
The landscape had no meanings for his eye,
In vain before him in their joy they stood,
For joy's responding sources in his heart were dry.

"'Being!—what art thou?' I exclaimed, and gazed
In wonder on his stricken form and face;
On me his haggard eyes he slowly raised,
And paused a few short moments in his place.
I know not what of deadly pain there came
In gradual current through his shaken frame,
But while he mark'd me, old Remembrance seem'd
To pass before him with its phantom crew,
Like one who fainting on the rack has dream'd
Of childhood's scenes, which crowd his thoughts anew,
Forgot through guilty years—but oh, how dear and true!

"And what art thou?" he answer'd me. "Canst thou,
A mortal, stand still mortal on this shore?
Back, back to earth, man's happiest dream to know—
Dream thou shalt die—Death comes to us no more!
With that he toss'd his weary arms on high,
And look'd despairing at the sunny sky,
While cold dew rose upon his ashy brow,
Wrung fiercely from his inward agony,
As though he felt the curse upon him now,
The everlasting doom, the fix'd command—to Be.

"'Death comes not here?' I cried; 'O, spirit, say,
Why dwells then on thy face that print of pain?
This land seems one where joyful souls might stray,
Most bless'd in that they lose it not again.'
Darkly he answer'd—'Ay, if place could make
That joy wherein the soul aspires to dwell;
The land, the land, perchance, such thoughts may wake—
Ay, all around is heaven, but here within is hell.'

"So saying, on the ground his form he threw,
And gnash'd the herbs around him in his woe,
Then his clench'd hand towards the skies he threw,
And gibber'd words like hate, but short and low,
Forced though closed teeth, as though his inward pain
Sought something to accuse, and sought in vain.
At length his eyes upon my face he turn'd,
Where fire, like tomb-lamps lit by sorrow, burn'd,
And bade me forward—'Go, and see beyond,
The fallen spirits, and the scene they suit—
God to their guidance leaves the outcast land,
Sin works its ill uncheck'd—go see its gracious fruit!"

While excelling in this strain of intense-ness there are not wanting passages of softer beauty, as in the opening lines of the description of the valley of the Morlas :—

"Rude was the ancient forest glade,
A tangled wilderness of shade;
And labour's hand had wrought with pain,
A path o'er cumber'd hill and plain.
Fantastic stretch'd the giant bough,
And stunted copse-wood crouched below,
And suns above but ill could make
A way to warn the shaded brake,
Or tint the grass with hues more fair,
Or stir the long-imprisoned air,
All was primeval, wan, and rude,
A wilderness of savage mood.

A rock, whose clefts the birch-tree graced
With pallid leaf, and motion light,
To fence the quiet scene was plac'd,
And hid the world without from sight.
The blossoms of the fox-glove sprung,
Its steepest pinnacles among;
And woodbine branches, long and fair,
Hung pendant in the depths of air;
Down its steep shelving side a brook
Its way with deep'ning accents took,
And midway, was a hollow space
Which gave the waters ample place;
They gather'd in the rocky breast,
And took a momentary rest;
Then with smooth, rapid edge, they pass'd
Across the stream-worn bina at last;
And from the broad projecting stone,
Leap'd forth with foam-rebounding shock;
Then sloping, and diffus'd went down,
O'er the slant face of the rock.
Such sound unceasing from them came,
Of changeful accent, yet the same,
As suited well th' unaltered scene
Of hill, and rock, and forest shen:
Whose beauty spreading all around,
Found voice in that perpetual sound."

Among the minor poems there are some songs with more meaning than most compositions of the class, and the lines on Venice suggest recollections worthy of the romance of the place.

Ismeer; or, Smyrna and its British Hospital in 1855. By a Lady. Madden.

OF Scutari and its hospitals several accounts have appeared, but this is the first report of the proceedings of the English nurses at Smyrna. As a narrative of events it will be read with interest, but at the present time it ought to be chiefly valued as a record of practical experience that may be turned to useful account in the permanent organization for female nursing which is now projected. Of the abundant labours of the writer every page of her unassuming narrative bears evidence, and we have formed a high opinion of her judgment and tact as well as of her zeal in the cause in which she was a volunteer. The mere routine of the hospital does not offer attractive topics to dwell upon, nor is there in the actual attendance on the sick or wounded room for much diversity of regulation. But on other matters of organization and preparation for the work the experience and opinion of this lady are worthy of consideration. The first conversation on landing in France suggests a question on which Protestant and Catholic authorities and tendencies are opposed :—

"I was quite ready, on our arrival at Boulogne, to exchange greetings with a party of 'Poissardes,' who were assembled on the pier, and who either expected us, or guessed our errand from our dress, having seen nurses for the East before. I entered into conversation with one of them, who asked me if I was *vouée*. I answered, 'No.' I was simply a British woman who had little to do at home, and, having no fear of disease, was willing to be of what use I could to our poor soldiers. She said we were '*braves femmes*,' and were doing a grand thing; and that French ladies would not act as we had done. I said, 'Pardon; your Sisters of Charity did such things long before we thought of them.' She answered, with an indescribable air, 'Ah! but

they are *vouées*!' which she evidently seemed to think quite a different affair. Another woman now came up, and asked me if I was *vouée*. My first friend interrupted her with a grand air; 'No, she is an English lady, who goes of her own free will, and without any vow.' These poor fisherwomen were most kind in carrying up our luggage, and showed themselves eager to assist us in every way they could."

The writer having thus obtained an unexpected justification of her own preference for non-enrolment in a religious order, the subject of dress is soon after brought up :—

"The reason given to me for the peculiarity and uniformity of our dress was, that the soldiers might know and respect their nurses; it seems a sensible reason, and one which I could not object to, even disliking, as I did, all peculiarity of attire that seemed to advertise the wearers only as serving God, or, at least, serving him pre-eminently, and thus conveying a tacit reproach to the rest of the world, for the obligation lies on all the same. I did not feel then, nor do I now, that we were doing anything better or more praiseworthy than is done in a quiet, unostentatious way at home every day; on the contrary, to many temperaments, my own among the number, it is far less difficult to engage in a new and exciting work, like the one we were then entering on, than to pursue the uneventful monotony of daily doing good at home. If I had found that it was really an advantage for us to be dressed as we were, I should say nothing about it; but, as we spent nearly all day at the hospital, where no other women were on any pretence admitted, it will at once be seen that the soldiers could not have mistaken us, and that the precaution was unnecessary. As for the dress itself, I have nothing to say against it, although not, perhaps, of the material or texture I should have preferred; still, the colour, grey, was one I generally wore from choice; but I must confess, that when I found myself restricted to it without what seemed a good reason, an intense desire for blue, green, red, and yellow, with all their combinations, took possession of me; though now, that I may wear what I please, I find my former favour for grey has returned in full force. However, allowing that it was desirable we should have had some uniform costume, it certainly was unnecessary that ladies, nurses, and washerwomen should have been dressed alike, as we were. That was part of the mistake I have already adverted to, and was productive of confusion and bad feeling."

On the more important point of social equality among volunteer and paid nurses, a grievous mistake in the arrangements at the beginning of the war, the following sensible opinion is given, of the justness of which illustrations appear throughout the work :—

"It seemed to those, who deserve all praise for the kindness and zeal with which they carried out the plan they believed would be of such use to the hospitals in the East, of sending out ladies, people who by education and habit ought necessarily to have more forethought and power of meeting emergencies than others not similarly circumstanced, that as these ladies were undertaking an unusual work, they ought, as it were, to lay aside their position, habits, and feelings, and descend to the level of servants. Now there would, perhaps, not have been much harm in this, although I think it would decidedly have been productive of less good, as I shall endeavour to show afterwards. But the real evil was done to the nurses, who fancied that according to our descent in the social scale, was to be their ascent, and that by some process unknown, on their going out to the East, they were to become ladies; and this for a time produced ill-will and bad feeling in some, but many of them were too sensible not to see things very soon in their proper light."

The need of distinction, even in dress, was abundantly apparent :—

"Besides causing confusion in the hospital, our

similarity of dress made it often unpleasant for us outside. Many of the nurses, on their days for going out, used to walk into Smyrna, and behave in an unbecoming manner. Of course, the inhabitants could not be expected to make any distinctions in a body of people apparently on an equality, and the conduct of part reflected discredit on the whole; so that Dr. Meyer was obliged to prohibit their going out, except under the care of the matron. Soon after our arrival, as a slight mark of distinction, we left off the badge (by order of the lady-superintendent), which was a strip of brown holland, edged with red, and 'Smyrna Hospital' embroidered on it in the same colour. This was worn across the breast. The nurses still continued it."

Smyrna deserves its Turkish name of *Ismir*, or the Beautiful :—

"The bay, with its splendid setting of hills and mountains of every form and hue; the town, commencing literally in the sea, and reaching, with its picturesque houses, mosques, minarets, and groves of cypress, nearly to the top of the hill on which it is built, and which is crowned by a ruined castle, while a little further down, conspicuous from all quarters, with its single cypress, stands, isolated and alone, the grave of Polycarp; all formed a picture which even then convinced one it had not been misnamed—Ismeer, 'the Beautiful.'"

But we must not dwell on the descriptions of the place and of its inhabitants, but enter with the nurses into the scene of their noble labours in the hospital :—

"There were from eight hundred to a thousand sick and wounded in the hospital when we arrived, and death was very busy amongst them. Dr. Meyer had not yet come; so everything was arranged *pro tempore* by Mr. M'Leod, one of the head-surgeons, who acted as his substitute. As things were therefore not regularly organised, we all walked down to the hospital on Tuesday morning, without any very definite plan, meeting on the way some soldiers, one of whom exclaimed, with rather a strong expletive, '— Tom, them's the *nurses*!' and were placed, pretty nearly by chance, in the several divisions. The one which fell to my lot had from sixty to eighty patients; and I must say, I felt a little strange just at first, on finding myself the only female, save my nurse, among so many sick soldiers. But how soon self is forgotten, when you are in the midst of sickness and suffering, and know that people are depending on you for relief! The fear, horror, and disgust which would probably affect an inactive spectator, have not the smallest place in your mind, and you have but one feeling left—pity, and a desire to alleviate pain."

The impressions of the first day's work are minutely recorded, and its routine applies to the general duties of the office :—

"We went to the hospital at nine o'clock in the morning, and generally remained there till half-past five or six in the evening, when, if we had time, we took a short walk before dinner, which was at seven. But in general we were so tired after our day's work, that we had little inclination for walking or anything else. We had not a single seat at the hospital, and were strictly forbidden from sitting on the beds. Many ladies, whose wards were full of fever cases, had not a moment's rest from nine in the morning till six, sometimes even later at night. It was not thought advisable we should fast all these hours; and we generally brought a biscuit or sandwich in our pockets, but many often brought theirs back untouched, not having found time to think about it at all."

Very painful and trying were the scenes occasionally witnessed, but there were gratifying incidents that gave encouragement and strength to the ladies in their labour. Speaking of the first day, our author says :—

"Many an expression of gratitude and kindness followed us that day, and many an exclamation of 'It does my heart good to see an Englishwoman again!' We returned from our first day at the

hospital, tired and pleased, and interested, O how much! in the poor fellows we had left sick, suffering, and dying, but so uncomplaining and patient; for with hardly one exception, these were the characteristics of all I came in contact with."

We are the more disposed to rely on the writer's statements, as she does not cloak the faults of the soldiers, while giving them praise for civility and for patience:—

"The habit of sometimes appropriating what did not belong to them, was about the greatest fault we had to find with the soldiers. They did not seem to think that taking from each other was any sin. A fertile source of complaint used to be, that they went away with the contents of each other's knapsacks. When they came into hospital, their kits were all examined, put into store, and an inventory taken, until the owners should be leaving the hospital. When men were picked out for the camp or for home, they were taken to this store; and how it happened, I cannot tell—but I know it frequently did happen—that many of them walked off with the well-stocked knapsacks and good new shoes of others, leaving their own empty ones and old worn-out shoes instead. I tried all I could to prevent this. I have pasted the men's names, regiments, and regimental numbers on their boots myself, but without any effect—the same grievance still continued; and no small one it often was."

Charitably it is added:—

"The wonder is, not that there are common soldiers of little principle in the army, but that there are many whose good conduct and delicate, honourable feelings would be an example to persons in any rank of life, and who felt deeply hurt at being classed with those who were not so scrupulous."

Many remarkable cases are mentioned from the hospital journals, as well as from the writer's observation. The following is worth quoting, if not for the poetic genius, at least for the patriotic and martial spirit expressed:—

"One man, G—, an artilleryman, had long and severely suffered from chronic-dysentery; and with the view of hastening and establishing his recovery, the doctor of his division advised his removal to England; but although he was reminded of the hardships and privations he had endured, he said 'he would rather join his comrades in the Crimea than his friends in England,' and entreated to be allowed to remain, as he was slowly recovering. And the morning after this conversation, he, as if to strengthen his petition, presented the doctor with the following verses:—

"Might I march through life again,
In spite of every by-gone ill;
To the end of life's campaign,
I would be a soldier still."

"I have laughed in peril's face,
O'er a comrade's grave I've wept;
And amid the war-way fire,
On a blood-stained field I slept."

"I have seen the pale-faced moon
Shining o'er a hero's grave,
Where a gallant heart lay cold,
Once the noblest of the brave."

"And I sighed to hear the story,
And a tear has filled my eye;
But 'tis all I ask of glory,
For my country so to die."

"Might I march through life again,
In spite of every by-gone ill;
To the end of life's campaign,
I would be a soldier still."

Sickness and death reduced the lady nurses at Smyrna to eight, half of the number that at first entered on the duties. The author concludes her interesting narrative with the spirited and generous remark, on behalf of herself and her companions, that although averse to meet such scenes of sorrow and suffering, there are none of them who would not readily and willingly again volunteer their services at the call of their country.

Revelations of Prison Life; with an Enquiry into Prison Discipline and Secondary Punishments. By George Laval Chesterton. 2 vols. Hurst and Blackett.

THERE are few men living who have had such opportunities of examining into the history and character of criminals as the late Governor of Cold Bath Fields Prison, and few, we may add, who have entered upon the examination with a more gentle and praiseworthy spirit. We bore testimony, while noticing Mr. Chesterton's 'Autobiography,' (see 'L. G.' 1853, p. 497,) to the author's shrewd alacrity and zeal in all his pursuits, during one of the most remarkable military careers on record. His subsequent history, while Governor of our great metropolitan gaol, if less chequered in personal adventure, is scarcely less strange as regards his narrative of the curious incidents and revelations of character with which his duties made him familiar. Mr. Chesterton proclaims, with an amount of egotistical pride which he has large right to assume, that he has been the chief agent in the reformation of prison discipline that has been working step by step in this country during the last twenty-five years, and his observations carry much weight. The volumes before us are, however, chiefly curious for their anecdotes of remarkable prisoners, derived from the author's own personal experience. Some of them, related before, are reproduced in greater detail, and others are new. By way of example we may select the following:—

"Amongst the visitors at my house, at the period I am recording, was a well-known and popular vocalist, who, in the plenitude of his good nature, would give me an occasional lesson in singing. Entering my room one day, he handed me a ballad, published in a very neat form, and said—'There is a sweet little song, composed by a friend of mine; practise it, and let me hear you sing it well in a week's time.' The ballad contained the name of the composer, and was a tasteful and expressive piece of music. Before, however, I had the opportunity to afford my instructor any rehearsal of it, the composer was consigned to my custody."

"The impoverishment resulting from play had driven the young man into the usual shifts to procure money, until, at length, he had resorted to the disgraceful expedient of ordering goods from retail tradesmen on credit, and converting such purchases into cash. For a fraudulent transaction of that nature he had been indicted at the Middlesex sessions, and a conviction ensuing, he received the sentence of three months' imprisonment with hard labour."

"Persons of his stamp, when committed to prison, were either submissive and tractable, or irritable and turbulent. My present subject was of the latter character, and I was almost worried into extremities with him. However, about a fortnight before his discharge, he suddenly relented, expressed much contrition for his insubordination, and thanked me in earnest terms for my forbearance. In that frame of mind he regained his liberty, and displayed so altered a disposition, that his respectable brothers (one of whom was a clergyman) attributed his reformation to our salutary discipline, and expressed themselves to that effect to a friend of mine."

"On regaining his freedom, he became sedate and studious, and by some means procured such an introduction to the bishop of a diocese (revealed to me), that his lordship consented to ordain him. While this prospect awaited my subject, the bishop received an anonymous letter, whereby he was made acquainted with the crime his protégé had committed, and its consequent penalty; and, thereupon, the bishop sent for the culprit, and, without any introductory remark, put the letter into his hand, and desired him to read it. During

the perusal, the bishop fixed his eyes intently on the reader, whose countenance betrayed considerable emotion, and sufficiently revealed the truth of the allegation. However, he did not attempt to deny the charge, but at once made a frank confession of his guilt, and accompanied the avowal with such an expression of shame and contrition, that his lordship eulogized his ingenuous candour, and declared himself so satisfied with the redeeming qualities that interview had disclosed, that he resolved not to withdraw his countenance, but to fulfil the promise to ordain him."

"In due time my *ci-devant* prisoner was admitted into holy orders, and his after course, in that sacred capacity, was made known to me by a gentleman, who, during his incarceration, had communicated with me on behalf of his family. It was rarely possible to meet with a young man, of twenty-four years of age, who possessed a more handsome countenance, or who was distinguished by manners more prepossessing and refined. Well educated, and endowed with rare musical abilities, he was the most fitting man to grace a drawing-room, and to ingratiate himself with the fairer sex. He abused his position as a clergyman, and became ultimately shunned for the licentiousness that stamped his character. In time he was excluded from all society, as a dangerous libertine, and, under that ban, he emigrated."

Among the traits of female character here is one of a delinquent whose apprehension resulted ultimately in an extraordinary advancement of fortune:—

"A considerable sensation had been excited in several noble families by the discovery that a favourite nurse, named Dora Fenn, was found to have been a systematic depredator. She was a stout, dark, handsome woman, apparently about thirty-five years of age, who had long been esteemed a valued nurse to ladies of distinction in their confinement, or when suffering from sickness. Not only had she been largely trusted, but held in the highest favour; and happy was that lady deemed to be, who could secure the services of Dora Fenn."

"A deplorable accident had prostrated the lady of a noble viscount, who was tended during her illness by the incomparable nurse. All had progressed favourably, and Fenn, no longer needed, had returned to her own home, when her ladyship's watch, and a most valuable order, set in brilliant, appertaining to his lordship, were missed. Those losses created intense consternation, for the reports of the day computed the value of the order at 600 guineas. The case was confined to the scrutiny of Mr. Goddard, of the public office, Great Marlborough-street, who subsequently became chief of a county constabulary."

"He was a man of very superior address, and of marked intelligence; and in the progress of the case, nothing satisfactory having been elicited, he learned that Dora Fenn had been an inmate of his lordship's house. At the proposition that her abode should be visited, acute distress was manifested by the family. She could never be suspected—she was too dear and good a creature! Goddard, however, insisted, and, armed with the necessary warrant, he repaired to her house, accompanied by his lordship, who benignantly desired to soften the seeming affront."

"When Fenn appeared, many kind apologies were offered, and the sad necessity blandly explained; but no sooner had the nature of the visit transpired, than the countenance of the woman, and her insolent refusal to permit a search, convinced Goddard of the soundness of the step he had counselled. Proceeding, in spite of opposition, to execute his mission, he discovered the watch and appendages, but the order was not to be found. The apprehension of Fenn, of course ensued, and, after an introductory examination, she was remanded to my custody. There, overwhelmed with despair at the exposure of her treachery, she was largely visited by members of the aristocracy, who now began to account for the mysterious disappearance of various valuables from

their own residences while the petted nurse was there.

"A committal to Newgate, trial, conviction, and a sentence to death ensued, but still the order, so much prized, was not forthcoming. At that period, the execution of the highest penalty of the law was by no means unusual, and Dora Fenn's life was far from safe. In that emergency, the late Mr. Wontner, then governor of Newgate, exercised a tact and judgment which were crowned with success. Summoning Fenn to his office, he told her to listen to him, and profit by his advice. Her life, he assured her, was in danger, but the restoration of the missing order (which she, undoubtedly, had stolen) might save it. He furnished her with paper, pen, and ink, and said—'Write to whomsoever you please; your letter shall not be read; but direct that the order be enclosed to me in a parcel forthwith, and we will see if we cannot preserve your life.' These particulars I learned from Mr. Wontner himself, and, moreover, the following day the order was in his hands.

"Dora Fenn was transported for life, and became acquainted with, in Australia, and married, a man of enormous wealth, who, as a convict, had been assigned to that colony for life, at a time when expatriation simply constituted the punishment of transportation. The wealth of that individual, acquired by grazing and trading in wool, was recorded in that most interesting document, the Transportation Committee's Report. The late Sir William Molesworth had presided over that inquiry, and had largely been assisted by the late Sir Robert Peel and other eminent men. One of the most gifted writers of the present day, to whom I lent that report, declared to me, that no romance had ever excited in his mind a deeper interest than had been awakened by the perusal of that report."

Here is another characteristic of woman in a debased form, yet having a latent spark of feminine gentleness:—

"Such were the home abandoned, and the sacred ties rent asunder, by the terrible addiction to drink, which transformed Eliza Ellams into the lowest order of street-walker, a tattered, shoeless wanderer; and induced her to herd with the most polluted miscreants the metropolis could furnish. St. Giles's was her place of resort, and there, at length, she was picked up literally from the kennel, into which she had fallen in a state of drunken insensibility; and in that shocking condition, which proved irremediable, she died.

"If more were required to paint the dreadful reality of that appalling passion, I could adduce a yet more frightful instance of the callousness it engenders. It absorbs every other feeling of the heart, and stands alone an awful, cankering curse.

"Persons such as Eliza Ellams would be the frequent inmates of all the metropolitan prisons, in turn; and, in this round of incarceration, those who were able (and they were but few) would write letters to their chosen friends who might be located in other prisons. This peculiar class of people were remarkable for three things. First, the steadfast, never-failing denial of guilt, notwithstanding the plainest evidence to disprove their assertions. Secondly, the complacent estimate they appeared to form of their own status, notwithstanding the damning testimony against them of nine-tenths of society in general, and their own sex in particular. And, thirdly, the farcical *empressment* they threw into their attachment towards some chosen prison associate, misnamed friend.

"In illustration of the third proposition, Ellams had formed a sort of romantic friendship with one Julia King, who was, at that period, not the least distinguished of my flock. Julia was about twenty-two years of age, of short but slender form, and could boast, even in prison, of a rosy complexion to set off features of no mean order. She had become prematurely a widow, by the sacrifice of her husband's life upon the gallows, for a burglary, accompanied with violence; and Julia had made no inconsiderable advance in the path of virtue, by becoming merely a practitioner in the

higher walk of uttering base coin—viz. by the circulation of counterfeit gold.

"It was really amusing to con the effusions that passed between these enthusiastic correspondents. Julia wrote a small cramped hand, and little could be said in praise of her orthography, while Ellams both wrote and spelt in a creditable manner. 'My very dearest little Julia,' and 'My dearest friend,' were the relative commencements of their epistles; and thence were banded from one to the other, professions of lasting attachment, and a vast amount of the sentimentality culled from low novels. While Julia King remained under my care, Ellams never omitted a P.S., with her 'respectful duty to the governor.'"

The following narrative affords also a strange insight into the workings of the corrupt heart:—

"The righteous design to disenthral from the shackles of vice a few of its enslaved daughters induced Miss Burdett Coutts to volunteer her liberal aid in so good a cause. She only once visited the prison at Cold Bath Fields, but she had, by that time, munificently contributed funds, and had taken an active personal direction in the establishment of a 'home' at Shepherd's Bush, as a primary experiment to test the practicability of withdrawing from vice, training into a right direction, and assisting to emigrate a few of the outcast sisterhood. For that purpose Miss Coutts had sought an introduction to me, in order that my experience might guide her in a selection of objects, and, through Mr. Charles Dickens, I had the happiness to aid that kind and charitable lady in her beneficent undertaking.

"Here, then, I derived some new light into the blind infatuation which impeded the corrigibility of the 'unfortunate' class. Although I had daily access to, at the lowest computation, 150 of those frail and suffering creatures within the prison walls, and was authorized to seek out eligible (I mean in point of penitential disposition) unfortunates from other quarters, I soon found the impracticability of winning many over to accept so great a boon. Objections would be raised, conditions critically sifted, and disdainful rejections of the offer would ensue too frequently to prove encouraging to my mission. Some would appear gratefully to assent, but as their enlargement approached, a change of mind would arise, and some plausible pretext be advanced to give colour to the ultimate refusal. I even applied to a very intelligent inspector of police—whose duty led him into a neighbourhood suitable to the proposition—and he readily consented to extend his assistance. At length, however, he was compelled to proclaim the utter failure of his efforts, since he found all to shrink from the irksomeness of quiet domesticity, and the prospect of expatriation. However, I succeeded in making a perhaps second-class selection, approved, after a personal examination into their frame of mind and general fitness by Mr. Dickens, aided by the matron and myself; and these were, at length, submitted to Miss Coutts, who was always benignly disposed to encourage the least sign of hopeful penitence, especially in the young. That excellent lady had good cause to be satisfied with her charitable labours, for ample was the confirmation, from various colonies, of the creditable conduct of, I think I may safely aver, all her *protégées*. Strange to say, my good offices in that merciful object were impeded by a late magistrate, who perversely insisted (as was by cynical interpretation literally too true) that Miss Coutts had no right to confer with prisoners within those walls, nor was it 'to be tolerated that Mr. Charles Dickens should walk into the prison whenever he pleased.'

"When the late Mr. Benjamin Rotch, the magistrate in question, had delivered that philippic, a humorous rejoinder ensued on the part of another magistrate, who could boast of a more gracious spirit. In the course of his declamation, Mr. Rotch attempted, with much asperity, to depreciate the writings of Mr. Dickens, and quoted a work on prisons, by a Mr. Adshad, a rabid

separatist; and, making that citation, Mr. Rotch caustically exclaimed, 'Mr. Dickens, whose statements on the prisons of America have been blown to the four winds of heaven, by the work of Mr. Adshad!' 'Certainly,' exclaimed the more genial magistrate, 'Mr. Dickens's name is miserably obscure, and his writings are scarcely known; but the immortal Adshad is of a different stamp, and his writings have a world-wide reputation.' The rebuke told forcibly."

Mr. Chesterton devotes a great many of his pages to the ambiguous vagaries of Mr. Rotch:—

"The career of the late Mr. Benjamin Rotch was strangely chequered by the multiplicity of his projects, and the manifold phases of his speculations; and as he generally contrived to embroil himself, his public life was marked by an unusual amount of contention, and may be said to have been one of ceaseless strife. He had, however, rendered himself unenviably conspicuous by a step which necessitated his retirement from the chair of the court, to which he had been elevated on the secession of the late Mr. Marriott. As chairman of the session of the *peace*, he had challenged to hostile conflict the Lord Mayor of London (Winchester), who, instead of appointing a meeting, moved for a criminal information against his adversary.

"At length, after testing a succession of strange enterprises, Mr. Rotch became infatuated in his zeal for teetotalism, frequently took the chair at meetings to promote it, and lectured in public in commendation of its principles. His fervour in that cause led him actually to determine that the largest prison in the kingdom, Cold Bath Fields, should be distinguished by that anchorite rule; and with preliminary wariness, he adopted a mild and almost deferential tone towards the chaplains and myself, to procure, as he himself professed, our 'sanction' to his delivering lectures to the prisoners on the evils of intemperance, and the efficacy of total abstinence. His proposition was advanced with so much courtesy and suavity, that no suspicion lurked in our minds as to his ulterior designs, and his first lecture was inaugurated by the attendance of myself and various disciplinary officers, and, by his express desire, was delivered to the morally worst class the prison then contained.

"Mr. Rotch was gifted with rare natural eloquence, and his lecture was not only effectively delivered, but it was pleasingly diversified by appropriate anecdotes. Towards the prisoners he repudiated any authority to demand their adhesion to his views, appealed solely to their reason, and even left any of them at liberty to withdraw, in case they should find his address distasteful. Not one, however, retired, but all listened to him with rapt attention.

"The class consisted of upwards of eighty, all of whom were what is termed 'common thieves.' To those poor ignorant listeners Mr. Rotch finally professed his readiness to administer the pledge—to all indeed who were convinced by his reasoning, and might be thereafter desirous to lead a life of sobriety. All volunteers to adopt the pledge were requested to stand up, and to the dismay of Mr. Rotch, and the amusement of those who witnessed the scene, all jumped up with *empressment*, except three."

On the various systems of prison discipline the report of Colonel Chesterton's experience will be consulted with interest. Of the silent system, enforced with rigid severity, he speaks with the greatest satisfaction, but he questions the possibility of its being carried out in most prisons from the lack of a sufficient staff of officers, and of firmness in the governors. Against the solitary system his opinion is strongly expressed.

It is not only objectionable, as tending to produce insanity and disease, but it prevents the application of the active and varied discipline which alone give hope of changing the habits and dispositions of criminals.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Narrative of an Exploring Voyage up the Rivers Kwôra and Binue (commonly known as the Niger and Tadda) in 1854. With a Map and Appendices. Published with the Sanction of Her Majesty's Government. By W. Balfour Baikie, M.D., F.R.G.S., in command of the Expedition. Murray.

The Natural History of Ireland. Vol. IV. By the late Wm. Thompson, Esq., H. G. Bohn.
An Examination of the Ancient Orthography of the Jews, and of the Original State of the Text of the Hebrew Bible. Part the Third. By Charles William Wall, D.D. Vol. I. Part 3. Whittaker and Co.

Revelations of Prison Life: with an Inquiry into Prison Discipline and Secondary Punishments. By George Laval Chesterton. 2 vols. Hurst and Blackett.

Wanderings among the High Alps. By Alfred Wills. Bentley.

The Harmony of the Divine Dispensations. By George Smith, F.A.S., Longman and Co.
Prædilectio-Presbyterianism; or, Curious Chapters in the recent History of the Irish Presbyterian Church. By the Rev. Richard Dill, A.M. Dublin: M'Glashan and Gill.

Evangelical Marston. By the Author of 'Emilia Wyndham.' 3 vols. Hurst and Blackett.

Erasmere; or, Contrasts of Character. By L. S. Lavenue. 3 vols. Smith, Elder, and Co.

The Young Commander: a Novel. By the Author of 'The Two Midshipmen.' 3 vols. Newby.

Aspen Waring: an Autobiography. Edited by the Author of 'Kate Vernon.' 3 vols. Newby.

Randal Vaughan; or, Self in Self-Sacrifice. A Novel. 2 vols. By C. Warren Adams, Esq. Newby.

Clara Howard; or, Heart Yearnings for the Unseen and the Abiding. A Tale. Nisbet and Co.

The Belonged Heart: a Novel. C. Dolman.

Disciplina Rediviva; or, Hints and Helps for Youths leaving School. By the Rev. J. S. Gilderdale, M.A. Bell and Daldy.

History of the Invasion of Ireland by the Anglo-Normans. By Gerald H. Supple. Dublin: W. M. Hennessy.

Chemical Field Lectures: a Familiar Exposition of the Chemistry of Agriculture, addressed to Farmers. By Dr. Julius A. Stöckhardt. Edited by A. Henfrey, F.R.S. H. G. Bohn.

The Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Vol. XVI. Part 2. John W. Parker and Son.

DR. BAIKIE'S narrative, published with the sanction of Her Majesty's Government, may be regarded as an official report of the Niger exploring voyage of 1854. Of this expedition some brief accounts have already appeared, but they have not spoiled the interest with which the present work will be read. On the death of Mr. Beecroft, H.B.M. Consul at Fernando Po, who was to have been at the head of the expedition, the command was assumed by Dr. Baikie, who went out as surgeon and naturalist, and well did that officer fulfil the duties to which he was unexpectedly called. The *Pleid*, an iron screw steamer of 260 tons, and of small draught, was built in the yard of Mr. Laird at Birkenhead, and the hygienic and prophylactic arrangements of the ship for the once dreaded river navigation were directed by Dr. Hutchinson, now R.M. Consul for the Bight of Biafra. The extraordinary immunity of the crew from disease has been much commented on, and has proved that with due precaution the African fever is as much under medical control and hygienic regulation as the intermitments of our own climates. Dr. Baikie's book contains a detailed narrative of the exploring voyage of the rivers Kwôra and Binue, commonly known as the Niger and Tsadda. Some important geographical facts were ascertained, and, along with the scientific purposes of the expedition, much information was obtained, which may be turned to useful account for objects of commerce and of philanthropy. The report of the voyage of the *Pleid* gives every encouragement to this country to continue and to extend its active exertions for exploring the regions of Central Africa. We earnestly hope that the appeals and exhortations of Dr. Baikie, at the conclusion of his narrative, may receive the prompt attention of the authorities. The expense of renewing the expedition would be trifling, and now that war is at an end, there is no excuse for neglecting an object so conducive to the honour and the interest of England.

The fourth and concluding volume of the late Mr. Thompson's 'Natural History of Ireland,' containing the Mammalia, Reptiles, Fishes, and Invertebrata, forms a most valuable and welcome addition to our knowledge of the Irish fauna. Mr. Thompson had been, for many years, a diligent observer of the animals of his native country, and

when, on his decease, soon after the publication of the third volume, it was known that he had confided his manuscripts to the care of the well-known zoologist, Mr. Patterson, of Belfast, naturalists felt assured that the task would be well done. This has now been worthily accomplished, in a volume of 500 closely printed pages, including a memoir and admirable portrait of the esteemed author.

Dr. Wall continues his learned researches and elaborate expositions, on the ancient Hebrew writings, and on the Original State of the Text of the Hebrew Bible. The present publication, Part III. of Vol. I., is devoted to a demonstration that the sacred text was originally written without vowel letters, or any other signs of the vocal considered apart from the articulate ingredients of syllabic sounds. About this there is not much room for controversy. In the statement and illustration of it the author takes up many topics of interest in general philology, as well as in relation to biblical literature. The greater part of the volume is occupied with discussions as to the various kinds of ancient writing, more especially the cuneiform. Dr. Wall reserves for another treatise fuller proofs of the reality and value of what he calls his discovery respecting the original state of the Hebrew text.

By those Alpine travellers who wish to leave the beaten tracks of tourists, and to see more of the wonderful scenery than the routinism of the district usually admits of, the record of Wanderings by Mr. Wills will be perused with advantage and pleasure. His experience will be especially valuable to pedestrians, and to those who combine scientific research with admiration of the grand and picturesque in scenery. The illustrations are from the pencil of Mrs. Wills, who accompanied her husband in his rambles, and the book serves to show that ladies might see much more of the grand scenery of the district of the high Alps than they usually do.

Mr. Smith's Lay Discourses on Select Portions of Scripture are intended to exhibit and illustrate the harmony of the successive revelations made to mankind, from the earliest times down to the Christian dispensation. The views of the advocates of a still further progressive theology are strenuously opposed, the revelation of the Holy Scripture being assumed as complete, and nothing of equal character and authority will be accessible to man, even to the end of the world.

Dr. Dill's book contains some remarkable statements on the subject of education in Ireland, especially in connexion with the Presbyterian province of Ulster. Ten or twelve years ago a Mrs. Magee left the munificent bequest of 20,000*l.* for founding an institution for training ministers for the Presbyterian church in Ireland. The trustees, of whom Dr. Dill is one, proposed the institution of a new college, with a complete curriculum, including chairs of literature and philosophy. The majority of the General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Church very wisely withheld their sanction from this project, as it involved a needless waste of funds, and implied the establishment of another sectarian college in that miserably divided country. The opponents of the college recommended that advantage should be taken of existing colleges for the general education of the Presbyterian students, the Magee bequest being thus left available for their theological and professional training. This difference of opinion led to 'rows' and lawsuits, which seem to have been kept up ever since. With much of Dr. Dill's book relating to ecclesiastical, polemical, and personal matters few of our readers will feel any concern; but the illustrations of the state of parties, and of the educational systems in Ireland, make it a curious book of reference. We may mention that a bequest by the same Mrs. Magee, now amounting to nearly 35,000*l.*, was left for establishing a college in India, for the education of the natives.

The contents of the volume entitled *Disciplina Rediviva* appeared originally in the 'English Journal of Education,' and deservedly met with the approval of many engaged in the instruction of the young. In their present form they may be more extensively useful. The object of the

author is to point out to youths on leaving school the advantages of study, and to supply hints for the most profitable employment of their time in the acquisition of general knowledge as well as the cultivation of classical learning. The perusal of the book will in itself be a useful exercise of intellectual discipline. It is ably written, and the author's views on education are sensible and liberal, while opposed to the superficial innovators of the day who decry sound classical training.

The account of the Anglo-Norman Invasion of Ireland, by Gerald H. Supple, is one of the series of publications of the Celtic Union. It is a concise, spirited, and generally impartial and accurate narrative of events, the history of which is not much known on either side of the Channel, and which may surely be read now without feelings of animosity by the descendants of those both within and without "the pale."

There is no lack of books now on the theory and the practice of agriculture, and another useful contribution to the libraries of scientific farmers appears in the Translation of Lectures, by Dr. Julius A. Stöckhardt, Professor in the Royal Agricultural Academy at Tharand, in Saxony. Professor Henfrey, of King's College, translates the book, and vouches for its value to agriculturists. Occasional notes are added, to make the application of the subjects more directly useful in this country, and an appendix on irrigation with liquid manure is contributed by Mr. Mechi.

Part II. of Vol. XVI. of the Royal Asiatic Society contains valuable papers on Buddha and Buddhism, by Professor Wilson; on the Gipsies of Egypt, by the late Captain Newbold, F.R.S.; Notes of a Correspondence with Sir John Bowring on Buddhist Literature in China; Notes on the Zend language, by John Romer, Esq.; and other articles interesting to Oriental scholars.

New Editions.

Answers to Mr. Macaulay's Criticism in the 'Edinburgh Review' of Mr. Croker's Edition of Boswell's 'Life of Johnson.' Selected from 'Blackwood's Magazine.' Second Edition. Murray.

The Poetical Works of Robert Burns. Edited by the Rev. R. Aris Willmott. Illustrated by John Gilbert. Routledge and Co.

Hints to Husbands. By George Morant. Second Edition. Simpkin and Co.

THE reprint of Mr. Macaulay's notorious party criticism of Mr. Croker's 'Boswell,' has induced Mr. Murray to reprint some 'Answers' that appeared to it at the time in 'Blackwood's Magazine,' and they have arrived at the dignity of a second edition.

Routledge's Illustrated edition of Burns' Poems is well adapted for English readers. The editor, as an Englishman, knows where glossarial explanations and illustrative notes are most needed, and equalizes the comments on the writings of the Scottish poet. Referring to the eminent Scottish editors of Burns, Mr. Willmott remarks, that "perhaps an English reader may sometimes think this work of elucidation slightly overdone, and even feel a very languid curiosity about the character of 'Poesie Nansie' or the politics of Dumfries." The brief biographical memoir is well written, and the text of the poems seems to be carefully edited.

The book for Husbands, by Mr. Morant, discusses the propriety or impropriety of the employment of man-midwifery, which he describes as a practice as unseemly as it is recent in its introduction.

Miscellaneous, Pamphlets, &c.

Message from the President of the United States, communicating Cession of Intercourse with the British Miniver. Printed for the House of Representatives. Washington.

The United States; their Constitution and Power. By Charles Browne. Kent and Co.

New Facts and Figures relative to the Isthmus of Suez Canal. Edited by M. Ferdinand de Lesseps. With a Reply to the 'Edinburgh Review,' by M. Barthélemy St. Hilaire. Wilson.

Steam Communication with Australia. A Letter addressed to the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London. With a Map. By James Laming. Burrup and Son.
British Postal Guide: containing the Chief Public Regulations of the Post Office, with other Information. Pub-

lished by command of the Postmaster-General. Eyre and Spottiswoode.
Considerations on the late Naval War, and the Arrangements which are necessary to prevent future Miscarriages. By Vice-Admiral Bowles. Ridgway.
An Examination of Professor Ferrier's 'Theory of Knowing and Being.' By the Rev. John Cairns, A.M. Edinburgh: Constable and Co.

Lunar Motion: the whole Argument stated, and illustrated by Diagrams. With Letters from the Astronomer Royal. By Jellinger C. Symons, Esq., B.A. Groombridge and Sons.

The Lunar Almanac and Meteorological Ephemeris for 1857. Simpkin and Co.

After the Wedding. By the Author of 'Home Truths for Home Peace.' W. Wesley.

How a Penny became a Thousand Pounds. Houlston and Stoneman.

Union of Institutions. Third List of Lectures, &c. Printed for the Society of Arts.

What shall we do with Music? A Letter to the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby, Chancellor of the University of Oxford. By Peter Maurice, D.D. G. H. Davidson.

Adversity: a Poem. By the Rev. John C. Boyce, B.A. Simpkin and Co.

THE merits of the political questions between Great Britain and the United States it is out of our province to discuss, and we satisfy ourselves, therefore, with acknowledging the receipt of documents connected with the cessation of intercourse with the British Minister; and also of the instructions of the 24th May from the American Secretary of State to the Minister of the United States in London. Happily it is now understood that the dismissal of Mr. Crampton on personal grounds is not to terminate diplomatic intercourse between the two countries. The difficulties about the enlistment question will probably now disappear. But the settlement of the Central American question is one of greater importance, and is as far as ever from being brought to a satisfactory issue. The remarkable feature of the instructions of the American Government to Mr. Dallas, is the direction for submitting the subject under dispute to arbitration, but of a scientific not a political character. This is almost a novelty in international differences, and one which may become a notable precedent if carried out successfully. But we fear that this is only a plausible way for avoiding the real examination of the case, which does not belong to "eminent men of science, who do honour to the intellect of Europe and America," but to practical statesmen and diplomatists, such as drew up the treaties, about the interpretation of which there is now a controversy. We may add, that the wide circulation of these papers, an unusual proceeding with such documents, shows how anxious the American Government is to set itself right in the public opinion of England and of Europe on the questions at issue.

In possible anticipation of an American war, or at least while public attention is turned in this direction, a brief account of the political institutions of the United States, and of their naval and military establishments, will be read with interest. Although so many books of American travel have of late years been published, few Englishmen have much knowledge of the constitution or of the resources of the Republic, a knowledge which it is desirable to diffuse at the present crisis. The statistical information is taken from the best and most recent authorities.

On the question of the ship canal through the Isthmus of Suez, M. de Lesseps, minister plenipotentiary, has edited this supplementary collection of facts and figures in support of his former treatise, which contained a report of the surveys and various statistical and official documents. Among the criticisms with which the project was met, the article in the 'Edinburgh Review' for January of this year has attracted considerable attention, and rendered a reply imperative. This is now done by M. Barthélemy St. Hilaire, member of the Institute, whose paper gives a lucid and able exposition of the whole subject. Some of the objections of the Edinburgh reviewer are satisfactorily disposed of; but from other sources we still have doubts of the scheme being so feasible as M. de Lesseps and his friends expect. The chief obstacles seem to us to lie, not in the difficult navigation of the Red Sea, nor in the construction of the canal, but in the extreme shallowness of the water at both ends, at Suez, and still more at Pelusium, which would

require jetties and works of enormous length, while the shifting soil and sand might renew the shoals, and require a ruinous outlay of money for keeping open the access to the passage through the Isthmus. This is the real difficulty of the scheme, to which M. Barthélemy St. Hilaire ought to have directed a larger share of his statements and arguments.

Of the suggestions of Vice-Admiral Bowles, the most important is the maintenance of an organization of naval militia for the prompt manning of the navy in case of war. He suggests the formation of maritime districts throughout the coast of the United Kingdom, the population of which, exempt from all ballots for the regular militia, should contribute a quota for naval service, to be occasionally trained during peace and embodied on the apprehension of war. The plan seems well to deserve the attention of Government.

Of Professor Ferrier's Institutes of Metaphysics we gave our opinion fully at the time of its publication. ('Lit. Gaz.,' 1854, p. 1005). Mr. Cairns in his examination touches upon some of the points then taken up. In the speculative department of metaphysics Mr. Ferrier shows acuteness and ingenuity; but his system is a sad departure from the sound mental philosophy for which the Scottish school has gained just honour by the successive labours of Reid, Dugald Stewart, and Sir William Hamilton.

Mr. Jellinger C. Symons has published a statement of the argument about the moon's motion, with explanatory letters and illustrative diagrams. The letters of the Astronomer-Royal are written in a very different strain from some of those of self-sufficient sciolists who tried to write down Mr. Symons in the newspaper correspondence on the subject. Mr. Airy points out the real difficulties of the discussion, and the whole argument, as we stated at the time ('Lit. Gaz.,' p. 211, April 26), turns more on questions of language than of facts, the necessity having been shown for a more accurate definition of terms than has been heretofore in use. Astronomers have been applying the term axial rotation in the case of the moon's motion in a different sense to that in which it is used in common language.

The Lunar Almanac and Meteorological Ephemeris, 1857, professes to predict the weather for next year by the moon's changes. It need not be said that such predictions, even as to the general course of the weather, have no foundation in science. Too many other causes influence the weather to admit of its being determined by the moon only. We tested the Almanac last year, and found it often ludicrously at fault. The prophecies for 1857 must be equally vague and uncertain.

The same liveliness and good sense which appeared in a former treatise by the same writer, 'Home Truths for Home Peace; or, Muddle Defeated,' appear in the story of *After the Wedding*. It begins at the point where most novels and tales of a common-place kind come to a termination, after the old nursery tale tune—"so they married and lived very happy." The real story of life often begins after the wedding, as will be shown in the development of the hero and heroine of this tale.

The directions how to make a Penny become a Thousand Pounds, the author somewhat needlessly explains are not meant for the perusal of the Rothschilds, Barings, Gurneys, and Capels, but for the Smiths, Browns, Joneses, and Robinsons of the busy world of industry and trade. How to push the reproductive powers of profit, discount, interest, compound interest, and other attributes of money, is the author's object, but the process is only available for those actually engaged in retail trade. A companion volume promised, on the economy of time, will come more within the province of literary readers.

The list of lecturers who have appeared before the Institution associated with the London Society of Arts, has now assumed the form of a regular directory, presenting at once a report of proceedings and a guide for operations in this important department of popular education. The publication comprises—1. A memorandum as to union of In-

stitutions with the Society of Arts, London; 2. List of Institutions in union; 3. List of paid lecturers; 4. List of unpaid lecturers; 5. List of apparatus and diagrams suitable for lecturers and class-teaching. It is a publication essential for the efficient management of mechanics' institutions and similar establishments, and some of the lectures might be advantageously introduced into ordinary schools, to a larger extent than has been heretofore usual.

List of New Books.

- Adams's (H. C.) First of June, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Tales of Charlton School, 12mo, cloth, 6s. 6d.
 Adventures of Jean Paul Chappard, fcap., cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Attache, by Sam. Slick, 12mo, boards, 3s.
 Baillie's (W. B.) Narrative, 8vo, cloth, 16s.
 Baker's (C. Manual of Bible History, fcap., 8vo, cloth, 3s.
 Belleguerred (The) Hearth, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.
 Brockhurst's (J. S.) Wife, or Love and Madness, royal 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Campbell's and Coleridge's Poetical Works, fcap., 8vo, cloth, 4s.
 Charlotte Elizabeth's Jewish's Lion, 16th edition, fcap., cloth, 5s.
 Charm (The) of Interesting Stories, post 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Chester's (G. L.) Revelations of Prison Life, 2 vols., 8vo, 41s.
 Cyclopaedia of Geography, 2 vols., 4to, half-bound, £2 10s.
 Natural History, 2 vols., 4to, half-bound, £2 10s.
 De Cressy, by Author of 'Dorothy,' fcap., cloth, 4s. 6d.
 Domestic Portraits, fcap., 8vo, cloth, 5th edition, 5s.
 Dorothy, 2nd edition, fcap., cloth, 4s. 6d.
 Edgeworth's (M.) Manucript, 12mo, boards, 1s. 6d.
 Evelyn Marston, 3 vols., post 8vo, cloth, £1 11s. 6d.
 Freeman's (E. A.) History and Conquests of the Saracens, 12mo, 5s.
 Guiderdale's (Rev. J. S.) Discipline Rediviva, fcap., cloth, 5s.
 Hewitt's Eggs of British Birds, 2 vols., 8vo, cloth, £1 14s. 6d.
 Jaufrey the Knight, &c., Imperial 8vo, cloth, 12s.
 Jeannie Morrison, fcap., cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Jones's (W.) Photographic Tour, 8vo, cloth, 4s. 4s.
 Lindley's Medical Botany, 2nd edition, 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Lindsay's (W. L.) Popular History of British Lichens, 8vo, 10s. 6d.
 Lyall's (A.) Agonistes, crown 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Macmillan's (Mrs.) Poems, fcap., 8vo, cloth, 5s.
 Millie's (Rev. W. H.) Lectures on the Catechism, 12mo, cl., 6s. 6d.
 Morris's (G.) Sins of God's People, fcap., 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 (Rev. F. O.) Nat. Hist. of Nests and Eggs of British Birds, £1 1s.
 Myrtle's (Mrs.) Amusing Tales, square, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Newton's (Rev. D.) Sermons, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.
 Noble's (Rev. S.) Book of Judges, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.
 Obstructives (The), &c., or the Forces and Future of Europe, 7s. 6d.
 Orr's Circle of the Sciences, Vol. VII., crown 8vo, cloth, 5s. 6d.
 Phillips's Million of Facts, new edition, post 8vo, cloth, 12s.
 Proper Names of Old Testament Scriptures, 4to, cloth, £1 5s.
 Richards's (W. C.) Harry's Vacation, fcap., cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Solly's (T.) Will Divine and Human, 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.
 Stanford's Paris Guide, 1856, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Thacker's History of the Consulate, 8vo, sewed, Vol. XII., 4s.
 Virgil's Aeneid, Text by Heyne and Wagner, Notes by Bryant, 8s.
 (Notes to) by Bryce, 12mo, cloth, 4s. 6d.
 Text by Heyne and Wagner, 12mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
 Webster's (T.) Principles of Hydraulics, post 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Weld's (C. M.) Vacation in Brittany, post 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.
 Wilberforce's (S.) History of American Church, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
 Woolaston's (T. V.) Variation of Species, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.
 Yarell's British Birds, 3 vols., 8vo, cloth, £1 14s. 6d.
 Zoe, by E. D. Livermore, 2 vols., post 8vo, cloth, 12s.

ARTICLES AND COMMUNICATIONS.

DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT MURAL PAINTINGS IN HADLEIGH CHURCH, ESSEX.

FROM the numerous remains of polychromatic decoration which have been discovered in churches at various periods, and traces of which may frequently be discerned beneath the whitewash, there can be no doubt but that it was the general practice during the middle ages to adorn the walls and roofs of interiors with brilliant colouring in order to harmonize with the painted windows and rich encaustic pavements; and that, probably, in no case were the walls and other parts of the building entirely devoid of coloured ornament.

Recent repairs and alterations in Hadleigh Church, Essex, have brought to light a series of mural decorations of considerable interest to the architect, antiquary, and ecclesiologist, exhibiting specimens of the art at different periods, from the thirteenth to the sixteenth century. The church is a perfect Norman structure, of small dimensions, not later than the time of King Stephen, consisting of a nave and apsidal chancel. Its original character has not been materially impaired by some later alterations and insertions; and by the judicious restorations which are in progress it will very shortly resume its ancient appearance. The earliest decorations which have been disclosed are of the latter part of the thirteenth century. The subjects are executed upon the surface of the mortar with which the internal walls are lined, and the only colours employed are yellow and claret. Beneath one of the Norman lights upon the south side, about eight feet from the floor, is part of a trefoil band, upon a yellow ground; and upon the north is another band of flowing pat-

tern, but of different design. Opposite to the south doorway is depicted the Virgin Mary, crowned and standing, and the Saviour seated beneath a canopy. Adjacent to these is another figure, somewhat indistinct, but supposed to be that of St. James the Less, to whom the church is dedicated. High up upon the west wall is a figure of large proportions; but too mutilated to be satisfactorily recognised. In the splay of a small Norman window, in the north wall, are angels in red, and upon the splay of a lancet window, blocked within the staircase leading to the roof-loft, which was obviously constructed not long before the Reformation, is the representation of St. Thomas à Becket, in pontificals, with his name inscribed in Longobardic characters, BEATVS · THOMAS. The back of an early niche, which had been enclosed in the wall by fifteenth century alterations, is very richly foliated. It seems evident that a systematic plan of decoration was continued throughout the nave in the thirteenth century, and in all probability the chancel was similarly adorned. This portion of the edifice, however, not requiring immediate repair, will be reserved for future examination. Occupying a considerable space upon the north wall is the story of St. George and the Dragon, a painting of the fifteenth century. The subject is very elaborately treated. It exhibits an extensive landscape with trees and birds; in the foreground St. George upon his charger is slaying a huge dragon, and rescuing thereby the daughter of the King and Queen, who are seen upon the battlements of a castle in the distance. The equestrian figure is remarkably bold and spirited. In this subject a great variety of gold and colour is used, which have, however, lost much of their brilliancy during the short time they have been exposed to the atmosphere. This picture evidently conceals much earlier decorations, and is itself mixed up with some Elizabethan borders and stripes of colour of still later date. A third specimen of decoration may have been introduced about the time of Edward VI., when the Decalogue, in arabesque borders of chocolate colour, was painted upon either side of the chancel arch within the nave. Over the entire series were subsequently painted texts of scripture, surrounded by wide ornamental borders of architectural design, representing debased classic niches supported by consoles. These are painted in red and yellow, and are of Elizabethan or Jacobean character; thus bringing down the use of colour, for purposes of internal embellishment, to a late date. Some portions of the earliest paintings are considered capable of preservation, and we are informed that the patterns of the ornamental bands will be adopted in decorating the interior of the restored edifice.

For the preservation of these interesting paintings the antiquarian world is indebted to the Rev. W. E. Heygate and Mr. H. W. King, (the latter gentleman being Secretary for the Medieval Section of the Essex Archaeological Society). Mr. Heygate and Mr. King have also made tracings of the paintings, and owing to their representations and advice the Essex Archaeological Society have employed Mr. Parish, the artist, of Colchester, to make full and complete drawings for the local Society's Journal.

RUSSIAN SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION.

(From the Brussels Herald.)

FURTHER accounts have been received of the scientific expedition sent out by the Emperor Nicholas for the purpose of determining astronomically the course of the principal rivers beyond Lake Baikal.

This expedition bears some analogy to that of the unfortunate Franklin, and, on that account, these further details have been published. The source of the great river Selenga, situated in a chain of mountains inaccessible even to the intrepid hunters of Siberia, had hitherto remained unexplored, and the course of the Vitim, one of the most considerable tributaries of the Lena, and which derives its name from the village standing at the junction of the two rivers, was entirely unknown. The Vitim, a considerable navigable river,

forms a natural communication between the districts beyond the extensive Lake Baikal and the country of Irkutsk. The history of the survey of this river, in 1638, by an ataman of the Jenisseisk cossacks, named Perfiliev, borders on romance, and attests the adventurous and inventive character of the Russians. Perfiliev continued to ascend the river during the entire summer, and desisted only at the approach of winter. Landing with his people, they constructed a hut, and contrived to exist during a whole Siberian winter on the produce of the chase. The principal object of Perfiliev was to open communications with the Tongou colonies of which he had heard mention, in order to barter for furs; but this Mungo Park of the North returned to the village of Vitim without having fallen in with the Tongous. The mayor of Irkutsk subsequently undertook the task, but with no greater success, he however laid down a plan of the river and of the rapids which had proved fatal to his boats.

The survey of the river was finally entrusted by the Emperor Nicholas to Smiraguine, who, after discovering the source of the Vitim, beyond the high chain of the Yablou, forwarded a report in July last, stating that he was at that time awaiting the Tongous in order to descend the river. In December, M. Orloff, another hydrographer attached to the expedition, after a successful survey of the upper sources of the Angara and the Bargousine, returned to Irkutsk, bringing news that Smiraguine, with certain Tongous, was in the month of August last between the two great tributaries of the Vitim, the Tzaya and Moussa, in a spot where further progress by land was rendered impossible owing to the steepness of the banks, which afforded not even footing for the reindeer, and that he had hired some natives to conduct him in their frail boats, constructed of bark and skins, down the river.

The expedition, whose centre of operations is the town of Irkutsk, have sent out Tongous in every direction, but, in spite of every effort, no further intelligence has been received of Smiraguine, and serious apprehensions are now entertained that he has perished in the dangerous waters of the Vitim. The Tongous of the desert are a people mild and inoffensive, living by fishing and the chase, and not at all likely to have made away with the traveller. A last hope remains, which is, that, surprised by winter, before they could descend the rapids, the band may have been able to construct huts, and to support existence, during the frightful winter to which they have been exposed, by means of the chase. In such a case, the Vitim might restore the wanderers, and the expedition soon see this second Franklin among them.

European Russia, observes the writer of the above, is as little known to Western Europe as is Asiatic Russia to the Russians, a country yet to be explored, and which, in the figurative language of its inhabitants, is styled the "golden nest." On what English or French maps are to be found the rivers above cited? yet are they considerably larger than any possessed by France. By these deserts Prunn (Pym), a lieutenant in the English navy, desired in 1851 to go in search of Franklin. The Emperor Nicholas refused his request, unwilling that his country should be deprived of this distinguished young officer, for had permission been obtained he would doubtless have shared the fate of Smiraguine.

GOSSIP OF THE WEEK.

PROFESSOR C. PIAZZI SMYTH has been authorised by Government to proceed to the island of Teneriffe, for the purpose of making physico-astronomical observations on the summit of the Peak. The Council of the Astronomical Society have been invited to furnish suggestions calculated to promote the objects of the expedition. Robert Stephenson, by whose science the country has so largely benefited, has placed his beautiful yacht, the *Titania*, of 180 tons, at the service of Mr. Smyth, stored her for four months, and, with her crew of sixteen

men, will be wholly under the orders of that gentleman until his mission is accomplished. The *Titania* was to sail on the 19th inst. Yachtsmen, who have enjoyed her accommodations, and the hospitalities of her owner, will fully estimate this further display of liberal spirit.

Among the works preparing for publication by the Oriental Translation Fund, are several of unusual interest in connexion with the history of the countries now under British dominion in the East. The Arabic work, *Kitāb al-Yamīnī*, by Abu-Nas'ar-Muhammad Ibn-al-Jabbār Al-Uṭbī, containing a detailed account of the conquests of Sultan Mahmūd, of Ghazna, and the successes of the Ghaznavides in Hindustān, is translated by the Rev. James Reynolds, M.A. By William Morley, Esq., is a translation of 'The Jāmi al-Tawārikh,' by Rashid al-Dīn; a celebrated Persian history, composed A.H. 710, giving a full account of the origin of the Turks, the reigns of Genghis Khan and his descendants, to the author's own time; an abridged history of the Prophets, Muhammad and the Kalfahs, to the year of the Hijra, 700; a chronicle of the Jews and Christian princes, and also an interesting geographical and historical description of the various countries of the earth. This translation will comprise the whole works, including the previously unknown portions discovered since the year 1838. 'Muntakhab ul-Labāb; the History of Hindostān,' by Khāfī Khān; translated from the Persian by James Ballantyne, Esq. This history has been much praised by European Orientalists. It commences with the invasion of Sultan Bāber, and is continued to the accession of Mohammed Shāh, comprising the period from A.D. 1519 to 1719. 'Mo'ejam ul-Baldān; the great Geographical Lexicon of Yāqūt ul-Hamawī,' translated by Major H. C. Rawlinson, C.B., F.R.S. This is by far the most important work in the whole range of Arabic literature for the geography and antiquities of the Mohammedan world. That it has so long, indeed, been neglected by the Orientalists of Europe is merely owing to the extreme rarity of the manuscript. The copy from which the present translation is being prepared is very correct, and quite complete. Other works of interest to Oriental scholars are in course of preparation. The Oriental Translation Fund has now been in operation for many years, being founded in 1828, and through its instrumentality about seventy works of unusual interest, and some of them of great importance, have been brought before European readers. The subscription list ought to be larger than it is, especially for public libraries, five pounds of the funds of which might be well devoted to these publications, in a country whose relations with the East are continually extending.

The Bööcke collection of Antiquities sold this week, by Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson, realized the sum of 1948*l*. Among the lots purchased for the British Museum were an Etruscan gold necklace of fine workmanship, with sixteen full-faced bearded heads of Bacchus, heads of harpies, &c., 160 guineas; a beautiful Etruscan gold ring, inclosing a scarabeus of sardonyx, engraved with a lion, 27*l*.; and a mosaic of the sixteenth century, representing a lion and lioness rescuing their cubs from the folds of a serpent, 73*l*. Of the objects described in our last, the pair of Etruscan bracelets sold for 120 guineas; the Russian gold cup, of the sixteenth century, 100 guineas; the ivory triptych, of the 14th century, 100*l*.; the neck ornament of the Holbein period, 123*l*.; and the Pompeian fresco, 48 guineas. Among other lots we may mention a globular Greek glass vase, 24*l*. 10*s*.; an Egyptian scarabeus, in green jasper, mounted in gold, 14*l*.; a pair of earrings of the Ptolemaic period, 11*l*. 11*s*.; an Etruscan fibula, 16*l*. 16*s*.; a cameo, representing a laureated head of Augustus, 25 guineas; a small iridescent crystal vase, 15*l*.; an embossed silver vase of the Ptolemaic period, 25 guineas; and an ivory diptych, of the thirteenth century, 50*l*.

With the restoration of peace attention is regained for some of the great works on which the progress of civilisation in the East must chiefly depend.

Among these one of the most important is the Euphrates Valley Railway, to connect the Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf. The line will commence from the ancient port of Seleucia, by Antioch and Aleppo to Ja'ber Castle on the Euphrates, and afterwards from the river to Bagdad and the head of the Persian Gulf, where there will be constant steam communication with India. Major-General Chesney is the consulting engineer, and Sir John Macneill, F.R.S., the engineer of the line. In India itself railway works are rapidly advancing. At a dinner given some weeks since to Mr. Berkeley, the chief resident engineer of the Great Indian Peninsular Railway Company, Robert Stephenson, M.P., in the chair, some striking facts were announced as to the progress of railways in India. The company with which Mr. Berkeley is connected have laid out about 1400 miles, and about the same length has been laid out by the East India Railway Company. By these two companies, with that of Scinde and two others, nearly 10,000 miles will be laid down in India within the next seven years.

People still continue to talk of the change that came over London after "the great and dreadful fire" which laid so large a portion of it in ashes, apparently without noticing that changes nearly as great have taken place in localities which the "devouring element" did not reach. These remarks have been suggested by the recent alterations at the end of Chancery-lane, and in Fleet-street, opposite that well-known thoroughfare. The pulling-down of houses and the new fronting of others will, in a very few years more, obliterate every visible trace of ancient London. In the neighbourhood in question honest Isaac Walton would find it difficult to identify his dwelling, although the goodly sign over "the Cock Alehouse" might peradventure guide him to the very hatch where he doubtless sometimes took his morning draught of ale—his only breakfast as he himself tells us—ere he trudged forth with his angle on a May morning. Within and without Temple Bar the change has been going on for years. Butcher-row, where Johnson dined *cheap*, and Nat Lee died drunk, disappeared in the days of our fathers, and doubtless we shall live to see Holywell-street vanish in our generation. It is the same further west. The sexagenarian might possibly recognise Saint Martin's Church, but he would be sorely puzzled to identify its graveyard and the surrounding neighbourhood. In fact, the change is going on daily and hourly, and while many neighbourhoods in London are rapidly hastening to decay, our huge metropolis continues to outgrow itself, and to expand in all directions. We fear that, with its increase, the decay of the suburbs—for every one who can live out of town by means of the railroad, does so now—will some day develop a serious evil, hedging London round with a population that may one day become dangerous. King James's horror of London growing too large has been laughed at by many, but it argues more foresight than posterity gave him credit for.

Wednesday was a triumphant day for Sir Joseph Paxton. In the first sparkling working of the great water bowers, cascades, and lower fountains, in the presence of Her Majesty, he beheld the successful consummation of his grand scheme of water-works that was to surpass the *grands eaux* of Versailles. The design is wanting in variety of sculpture, but the power and elegance with which the water is ejected, rising to a height of nearly 250 feet, surpass largely anything hitherto achieved in the art. The effect was magical, and the rainbows formed in all directions by the sun's rays upon the continuous showers of spray, added a poetry to the scene which no pencil but Turner's could have depicted.

A poor unfortunate parrot escaped from a cage last week in the neighbourhood of Coggeshall, where he was shot by some merciless bird-stuffer for mounting. The 'Essex Standard,' on describing the incident, remarked, "There is reason to believe that it has migrated from its native country;" to which 'The Times,' when quoting the provincial paper, adds, "Why was he shot? Are

naturalists determined to reduce us to sparrows as the only representatives of British Birds?"

The Annual Congress of the British Archaeological Association is appointed to be held on the 25th—30th of August at Bridgewater.

A fourth edition of M. de Montalembert's 'Avenir Politique de l'Angleterre' has been published at Paris.

A small work which will possess considerable interest to a large class of readers has just been published in Paris—it is Talma's 'Réflexions sur Le Kain et l'Art Théâtral.' It was published originally upwards of thirty years ago, in a ponderous collection of 'Mémoires sur l'Art Dramatique,' in fourteen volumes, but has never been much known to the public.

A curious paper, read in the last sitting of the Academy of Sciences of Paris, expresses the opinion, which will seem strange to many persons, that the inundations with which France is periodically affected, are mainly caused by nothing less than the sirocco from Africa. According to the theory propounded, this terrible wind in passing the sea sucks up a considerable quantity of water, which it carries to the mountains in the centre east and south of France, where it discharges it, and at the same time increases the volume of the water by melting the snows.

A fragment of a Roman column, found by the French in the village of Kroub, near Batna, in Algeria, has enabled local antiquaries, from an inscription on it, to guess, with tolerable precision, the site of Sila, a town famous in the early centuries of Christianity as the seat of a bishopric. This site is a place now called Ksar Mahdjouba, about thirteen miles from Kroub. At Ksar are a great many ruins, and amongst them a tower between forty and fifty feet high, and the remains of a church.

The Royal Library at Hanover has increased its collection by the purchase of 12,000 volumes, forming the library of a gentleman named Siemsen. The greater part of these works are relative to ancient German literature.

An important discovery is announced from Germany—namely, a fragment of the *Niebelungen*, which makes up several omissions in the existing work.

Considerable sensation has been created in the little world of Weimar by the appearance of a work, just published, under the title of 'Letters from Schiller's Wife to a Faithful Friend,' in which the reputations of many persons only recently dead are somewhat roughly handled. Amongst those upon whom reproaches and blame are pretty freely heaped is the Chancellor von Müller, the well-known friend of Goethe. Many of those spoken very slightly of were men who shed honour upon Weimar in her most palmy days, and whose names are associated with all that was most prominent and best in Germany in the times in which they lived. The "faithful friend" is Herr von Knebel.

In a collection of autograph letters of Lorenzo il Magnifico, Marsilio Ficino, Michael Angelo, Benvenuto Cellini, and other Italian celebrities, which was lately scattered abroad, there was one more than usually interesting. This was a letter of Joanna Feltria de Rovere, sister of the last duke of Urbino, which was given by her to Raffaele as an introduction to Pietro Soderini in Florence; this letter is familiar to all who are acquainted with the documents relating to Raffaele's life. Some doubt has been cast upon its genuineness by Pungileoni, in his 'Elogio Storico di Raffaello Sanzio,' published in 1829, but the authenticity of the letter has been strenuously supported by Bottari and Rumohr.

Herr Feilsack has just discovered, in the Piarist College in Vienna, a hitherto unknown manuscript of the 'Niebelungenlied.' Although it dates only from the end of the fifteenth century, it is very interesting, even valuable, since it is taken from no known MS. of the poem.

A work which will be extremely useful to travellers is about to be published in a few days;

it is called the 'Lexicon of German Hotels.' Besides giving the names and addresses of all the principal hotels in Germany, with their prices, it will contain other useful information, and practical hints to travellers and tourists.

Under the title of 'Sebastopol,' a volume of poems, of considerable merit, with the Crimean war for the subject, has just appeared in Breslau, by Gottshall.

A humorous poem, called 'Frottilla,' hitherto quite unknown, has just been published at Florence; it is asserted to be by Petrarch.

A new edition of Dante's minor poems has just been published by Bianchi in Florence.

FINE ARTS.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.—EXHIBITION OF THE OLD MASTERS.

A *St. Agnes* (42), by Christofano Allori, is to be remarked from the comparative rarity of the painter. He appears to have been a Florentine artist, circ. 1600, in the succession of Ludovico de Cigoli, who followed Barroccio. The elegant contours and soft colour of this picture are remarkable, though the general effect is somewhat tame.

Still more rare is Paggi. The instance of this artist's works is a *Venus Wounded* (82), from Mr. Cavendish's collection. Giov. Batt. Paggi seems to have been a follower in the succession of Barroccio, at Genoa, at nearly the same date as the last-mentioned artist. This is a figure very elegantly treated, not without allusion to the antique, as well as to the modes of its revival by the followers of Raphael. The landscape is also bright and charming.

A small *Entombment* (97), by L. Carracci, is perhaps the best work of this school; followed by a *Dead Christ* (34), of the same era, but without a name, from Lord Ellesmere's collection.

Hagar and Ishmael (65), by Mola, is a characteristic instance of this artist's style. The strong contrasts of light and shade, and the peculiar treatment of the flesh, are remarkable.

The Virgin and Child (33), by C. Cignari, from the Duc d'Aumale's collection, is a remarkable instance of treatment of a religious subject which has become completely secularized. The face of the Virgin is pretty and delicately coloured, but with an amorous expression of quite an earthly cast, and the child is equally without devotional motives.

Of the Spanish school, *St. Lawrence* (81), by Zurbaran, is a painting of fine rich colour as to the priestly robe, the countenance of the saint being of that olive complexion which is characteristic of Spain. The examples of Murillo are not remarkable.

Among the French masters, a *Battle Piece* (149), by Bourgoignon, is rich in colour, but somewhat confused in subject: the Claudes are universally tame and commonplace, but there is a beautiful *Head of a Female* (69), by Greuze, from Lord Dufferin's collection, which displays all the delicacy of this master's style, and that tender affection for the traits of female beauty in all their evanescent shades and varieties for which he is unrivalled.

The Dutch school, as usual, is extremely numerous, but the examples are not commensurate in importance. By Both, there is a *Landscape* (70), from Mr. Wynn Ellis's gallery, which is unusually attractive for its delicate warm tone of atmosphere, and exceedingly refined and solid treatment; and a *Cuyp of Mr. Bevan's*, a *Landscape and Figures* (99), of beautiful radiant light, and pastoral figures of great spirit and life-like simplicity. The Temera's also include an *Incantation* (8), a remarkable subject, painted on a vase of fantastic shape, and wreathed with flowers and wild fruits. Two subjects by Jan Steen, a *Wedding Feast* (15) and a *Merry-making* (18), from Apsley House, are rather brown in colour—but abound with the amusing and ludicrous incidents of low life which this painter loved to introduce into his scenes.

A *Dutch Family* (27), by N. Maes, is admirably treated as to light and shade, and gains in this

Is. Newton.

Nicolaus Mercator

Kenelm Digby

John Hamstead

John Aubrey

B Franklin

Chr. Wren

Jean Rod Lavater.

Leppys

Ed Ashmole

John Locke

John Evelyn

Edm. Halley

Orrery

Huns Sloane

Montesquieu

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respect a force which is by no means due to the accuracy of the forms or the interest of the composition.

Hobbins's Village (47), is a fine landscape by this favourite master; and a *Landscape* (83) is scarcely inferior to it in power and breadth of treatment.

Four admirable hunting scenes by Snyders, and two splendid examples, in his peculiar line of subject, by Hondecoeter, are very conspicuous features of the gallery. Nor should we omit mention of an elaborate *Portrait of Vanderwerff* (93), by himself, executed with all the refined finish of this painter. The artist is represented as holding in his hand a painting, containing portraits of a female and child; but the excessive roundness and prominence given to the form of the latter completely removes him from the canvass on which he is supposed to be represented, and creates a confused doubt as to whether the child is not intended to form an integral portion of the original work.

Lastly, we come to the English school, among which a prominent position is occupied by Turner's *Temple of Jupiter Panhellenius in the Island of Agina* (53). This appears to have been an early work of the artist. The arrangement is very similar to that of the well-known subject where the temple is represented as restored, and the figures and scenery are supposed to be antique. Here the action is merely that of a group of females dancing, whilst a Turk and other figures are looking on. The temple is on the right in ruins. A fine group of trees in the centre divides the landscape into two parts; the vista on the left is occupied by a lake far below the level of the foreground, and a beautiful descent of broken ground to the sea, which stretches across the whole landscape. In the distance are Attica and Athens. The figures in this subject, as usual in Turner's pictures, are coarsely drawn; nor is the tone of the painting, which is extremely varied in scale, altogether satisfactory. There is a redness of tint in some parts which scarcely consists with the unclouded sunlight of those southern regions; and, above all, there is an uncertainty as to the mere mechanical mode in which this picture has been painted, all of which prevent us from accepting this as a perfect instance of the master's power. It is, indeed, inferior in these points to some of the marine and coast views which have been exhibited in the Institution, but with all these drawbacks is yet a noble work, full of expansion, multiplicity, and genius.

The famous *Sigismunda* (118) of Hogarth, one of his few pictures of high historical aim, and the equally celebrated *Garrick in the Character of Richard III.* (137), so well known from the engravings in the Boydell Gallery and elsewhere, command immediate attention.

Wilkie's *Guerrilla taking leave of his Confessor* (121), from Her Majesty's collection, painted with a great display of art, in a free, unfinished manner, has a touch of humour in it always striking and attractive.

A number of small pictures by P. Nasmyth may be remarked among the novelties of the Exhibition. There is also an excellent Morland, entitled *Peasants in a Wood* (150), broader and larger than usual.

The paintings by Wilson are more than usually demonstrative of his splendid powers and grand catholic feeling in act. Mr. Gladstone's grand picture of *Phaethon* (123) is almost equal to Claude in radiance as it is far superior to him in dignity of composition; and amongst the four remaining subjects, *The Bridge at Rimini* (133) embraces almost every charm of landscape art. *Cader Idris* (159), or a duplicate, has, if we mistake not, been recently exhibited elsewhere.

By Collins there is an extremely delicate sketch of *Cromer* (114); by Sir A. Calcott, *A Dutch Coast Scene* (127), in high sunlight, full of figures, elegant, but somewhat tame.

Finally, the portraits are a distinguished feature of the gallery. Besides three subjects by Antony More, and a *Portrait* (76), unnamed, but admirable, of *Galileo*, two excellent heads by Titian, and others by Tintoretto, we have some subjects by Sir

Joshua; amongst these is the famous picture from Strawberry Hill, comprising portraits of *Elizabeth, Charlotte, and Horatia Waldegrave* (157), the three nieces of Horace Walpole, now in the possession of Lady Waldegrave; the portraits of *George John, Second Earl Spencer* (124), of *William Henry Cavendish, Fourth Duke of Portland when a Boy* (148), and of *Miss Hunter* (160), are most distinguished. It may be asserted, however, that not one of them displays the art which former exhibitions have witnessed, as in the celebrated portrait of Miss Horneck and others.

By Romney there are portraits of *Lady Edward Bentinck* (132), *Lady Hamilton* (143), and *Sir Henry Lushington* (165), all of excellent character; one by Gainsborough, *Mrs. Gage and Child* (108), of no great eminence; and finally, an exquisite head by Hoppner, in his sketchy but decisive style, of *Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire* (125).

The completion of Mr. Egg's picture, now on exhibition at Messrs. Graves's, representing the three allied generals in council, on the morning of the 7th June, 1855, before the storming of the Mamelon, is one of the events of this week. The novelty of this picture will strike every eye, and gradually as the spectator becomes acquainted with the peculiar treatment of the artist, his satisfaction and enjoyment will be complete. Mr. Egg, we need not say, is an artist in the truest sense of the word, and never has he displayed his ingenuity, originality, and power of expression, more than on this occasion. The scene is the front of the British head-quarters, where a table has been set on the stones, under the chequered shadows of the vine that covers the trellis-work overhead. Around this table are placed Lord Raglan, seated, in blue frock coat, and white hat, around which a white silk handkerchief has been twisted, with his amiable and nonchalant English face; Omar Pacha, also seated, in uniform, with a noble expression of life and impulse in his raised head and swelling chest; and General Pelissier, in his French regimental dress, standing, pointing out some portion of the plan to his companions. Behind them the door of the house is open, and along the passage and through an opposite door of the house, also open, appears a refreshing gleam of dark blue sky, and a valley with military tents. Two sentries are seen moving about in the shade of the passage. This scene, so apparently simple in construction, has been prepared with the greatest care, partly with the aid of the photograph, but with a power and originality on the part of the painter that cannot be described. Every line of the picture has been studied with the most intelligent attention, and it will be seen that the colour, the costumes, and above all the modelling of the faces, are of an order far superior to the general run of works of this class. We congratulate Mr. Egg on his success, as there is no doubt of this being one of the most eminent art-productions to which the events of the late war have given birth—if it be not absolutely unrivalled among them in merit—at least by anything we have seen in this country.

The Oxford collection, consisting chiefly of pictures, but comprising also some bronzes, marbles, and ornamental furniture, is announced to be sold at Messrs. Christie's, on Thursday next. Wolterton Hall, Norfolk, is the mansion where this assemblage of works of art has been hitherto preserved. The pictures are of all schools; but the most distinguished are—the celebrated *Rainbow Landscape*, by Rubens, from Mr. Watson Taylor's collection; a Murillo; a Sasso Ferrato, of unusual size and importance; and a specimen of the early German school, by Mathæus Grünewald, of Aschaffenburg.

At a sale at Messrs. Christie and Manson's, on Tuesday last, among some pictures of minor importance, a fine work by Greuze obtained the high price of 500 guineas.

We learn, from Paris, that M. Paul Delaroche has just completed a picture representing the Girondists in gaol on the eve of their execution. It is of no great dimensions, and is finely executed. It has been purchased by M. B. Fould, banker.

We mentioned, in a recent number, that there was a talk of erecting either a triumphal arch or a column in Paris, to commemorate the victories of the French troops in the Crimea. The Senate has decided in favour of a column. On dit that the site will be somewhere near the Pantheon, at the back of which the new Boulevard de Sebastopol is to run.

Herr Knoll, the sculptor, has just finished a most interesting work of art, called the "Tannhäuser" shield; it illustrates the story of the "Sängerkrieg," or musical contest of the Minnesingers in the castle of the Wartburg, with the addition of several episodes out of the old German mythology. These bas-reliefs are wonderfully beautiful, full of deep poetic feeling, and remarkable for the skillfulness of the execution, combining in the figures modern strength with the gracefulness and Adonis-like beauty of the ancient sculptors. These reliefs are contained in the centre of the shield, in which is a single group, surrounded by three circular friezes; the exterior circle, which is divided into four compartments, represents Tannhäuser as a youth, gaining his musical instruction in the singing school; the second compartment shows him as an antagonist in the "battle of the singers" in the Wartburg; in the third he proceeds as a pilgrim in a long train of foot-sore penitents to Rome; and in the last division he stands before the haughty Pontiff, suing and suing in vain for pardon for having fallen off from the true Platonic love of his order, and wasted his time in the fatal cave of the syren on Mount Huldemberg. The divisions in this series are formed by allegorical figures, in niches, of Germany, history, fairy lore, and legend, the latter holding the rod which the Pope had given Tannhäuser, with green shoots sprouting from it, the merciless Pope having said, that when that dry stick produced green leaves Tannhäuser should be pardoned, and not till then; the two inner circles are occupied with strange wild illustrations of German mythology, very interesting, but requiring too much time to examine here in detail.

In Nuremberg a new discovery of fresco paintings has just been made; they date probably from the year 1520, and are of the school of Albert Dürer. They were found on the exterior side of the council chamber by Herr Eberlein, a painter, who has offered his services to restore them; but they are terribly injured by time and exposure, and in some places nothing left of them but the outline. In the atelier of Herr Döring, in Nuremberg, copies of a number of the rarest and most valuable of Albert Dürer's wood-cuts are now being engraved. The first plate has been compared, by the Director of the School of Art and the Sub-director of the Albert Dürer Society, with the original work, and pronounced remarkably successful. These fac-similes, or rather extremely accurate copies, will be very valuable to artists, to whom the originals, from their rarity and costliness, are almost inaccessible.

The magnificent stained glass windows, on the south side of the Cathedral of Ratisbon, have suffered severely from the effects of a terrible storm, which, a few days ago, broke over the town, carrying destruction with it wherever it fell.

In a monastery near Seville, in Spain, several hitherto unknown works of Murillo and Alonzo Cano have just been brought to light; they are said to be most valuable, both as paintings and in connexion with the history of art, especially those of Alonzo Cano, who followed the double calling of painter and sculptor.

The Emperor of Austria, it is said, is about, at his own expense, to erect a temple on the spot where the Hungarian crown and regalia were lately discovered.

A statue is to be erected, as a monument to Platen, in the royal park at Anspach. King Louis of Bavaria, with his accustomed liberality, has promised to contribute the metal necessary for the casting; the statue is to be colossal.

A statue thirteen feet high is to be placed in Asti, in Piedmont, in commemoration of the great poet Alfieri, who was born there.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

THE *début* of Mademoiselle Johanna Wagner on Saturday last, in Bellini's *Capuletti ed i Montecchi*, was not a success in the ordinary sense, it was rather a great triumph of art. The curiosity which prevailed to see this lady, whose name a few years ago occupied a large space in public attention, produced a scene of excitement such as has rarely been witnessed within the walls of Her Majesty's Theatre. It is fortunate for the accomplished performer, and, we think, for us, that circumstances prevented her appearance at that time in London, reserving her *début* for an arena incomparably better adapted for the display of her remarkable powers. Some reminiscences of the managerial contest seemed to linger in a solitary corner of the house; for to a personal feeling alone could be attributed the isolated murmur of disapprobation which was heard at the close of an enthusiastic call for the *débütante* at the end of the first act. The effect, of course, was to heighten the tempest of applause with which her re-appearance was greeted; and never, within our recollection, was a more complete or genuine success achieved upon the lyric, or, indeed, upon any other stage, than by Mdle. Wagner's presentation of the character of *Romeo* from the first scene to the last.

We have a key to the rare dramatic skill of Mdle. Wagner in the fact that she had acquired a high reputation as a *tragedienne* several years before she appeared as a vocalist. A native of Hanover, where she was born in 1831, she displayed considerable talents in serious parts in the German drama at an early age, and was even then considered an actress of mark in the leading rôles of tragedy. Her musical education was conducted in the first instance by her father, a tenor singer, and completed at Paris by Manuel Garcia, under whose instructions her fine *contralto* voice was so successfully developed that it was determined to extend her range of parts to the lyric drama. Her first attempts were so favourably received that she gradually enlarged her *répertoire*, and finally forsook tragedy and serious comedy altogether to devote herself exclusively to opera. In the same way experience and practice led her to embrace a wider sphere in her new pursuit than was originally contemplated, and, no longer limiting herself to *contralto* parts, she soon included others which were strictly *soprano*. Whoever has heard her sing any of her native melodies, in which she gives a dramatic expression to the national characteristics, must be aware of the extraordinary command of voice she possesses beyond what may be considered her natural compass, and will readily comprehend the means by which she produces effects upon the stage which have seldom been attempted before.

Since the days of Pasta and Malibran, the lyric theatre has not witnessed a performance distinguished by such true passion and intensity of feeling as the *Romeo* of Mdle. Wagner. The music, which is inadequate to the demands of the subject, sinks into comparative insignificance under the higher attractions of the acting; and the weakness of the composer, which would be sensibly felt in other hands, becomes a matter of secondary consideration. We think only of the emotions of which the music is merely the exponent, and are fairly carried away by the action that is going on before us, in spite of the feebleness and vagueness of the vehicle through which it forces an utterance. The entrance of Mdle. Wagner upon the scene in the first act fairly took the house by surprise. It was eminently picturesque and striking. Her noble and gallant air, the beauty of her attitudes, and the passionate earnestness of her opening appeal to the Capulets, seized upon the audience at once, and gave an assurance of power which was strengthened at every step throughout the piece. Contrasted with this passage, full of grace and sweetness, was the sudden fire that lighted up her whole figure upon the rejection of her offer, terminating in a burst of proud defiance which filled the ear like the inspiring call of a trumpet to battle.

The delivery of the air 'La tremenda ultrice spada' was marked by an energy which communicated its influence to the pulses of every person in the house. Very exquisite, too, and replete with tenderness, is the scene where *Romeo* in vain endeavours to persuade his mistress to elope; and the power of transition from the boldest declamation to the deepest pathos was exemplified with extraordinary effect in the third act, where *Romeo's* quarrel with his rival *Tebaldo* is suddenly interrupted by *Giulietta's* funeral procession. The quarrel itself afforded an opportunity for a display of force to which no description can do sufficient justice, especially the delivery of the passage—

Vieni; io ti sprezzo, e sfido!
Teco i segnai tuoi, &c.

where, by an impetuous descent of the voice, the singer brought out the expression of her wrath in a manner that startled the whole house. And then the exclamation, when the procession appears, "Ella è morta!" was not to say uttered with a voice full of tears, but in a tone laden with the agony of a broken heart. Again, in the last scene, crowded with fluctuating emotions, the powers exhibited by Mdle. Wagner were of the highest order. Never was grief more touching or profound than that expressed in the melody over the body of *Giulietta*; then the gradual astonishment with which the lover listens to her faint voice calling upon his name, and the cry of delight, "Cielo! chi vegg'io!" he utters when she rises, were triumphs of combined acting and vocalization that drew down the most rapturous applause. But it is out of the question to attempt in a single article, under the conditions of our limited space, to do more than indicate a few leading points of a performance distinguished by such variety and grandeur of execution; and we must reserve for next week a more complete notice of this great lyric *tragedienne*. We cannot dismiss the subject, however, without observing that Mdle. Jenny Bauer played *Giulietta* with spirit, participating largely in the applause of the evening; and that Herr Reichardt displayed sound musical taste and feeling in the character of *Tebaldo*. We shall do these new performers more justice in our second notice.

At the Royal Italian Opera *Don Giovanni* has been this week produced, with as good a cast as, under present circumstances, can be expected. Of the *Don Giovanni* of Ronconi, and the *Leporello* of Herr Formes, much that is satisfactory cannot be said, though the ability of both is displayed through the unsuitable parts. The *Zerlina* of Bosio, the *Elvira* of Marai, the *Commendatore* of Tagliafico, are admirable, and the other parts are well sustained. That of *Donna Anna* was filled by Mdle. Rosa Devries, who creditably made her first *début* in this country. In the part of *Don Ottavio*, with the favourite aria, "Il mio tesoro," Gardoni was welcome. The minuet was performed by Cerito and Desplaces.

The New Philharmonic Society brought a successful season to a brilliant close on Wednesday evening, when Madame Goldschmidt's appearance attracted a crowded audience to the Hanover Rooms. The scena from *Der Freischütz*, the aria 'Squalida veste,' from *Il Turco* of Rossini, and the Mazurka melodies of Chopin, were the pieces. Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony, Mendelssohn's *Ruy Blas*, and Weber's *Oberon* overtures. In a selection from Dr. Wyld's *Paradise Lost*, the vocal parts were sustained by Miss Huddart, Miss Sherrington, Mr. Tennant, and Herr Rokitsanski. Mrs. J. Robinson's performance of Mendelssohn's pianoforte concerto, sustained her reputation as the first pianiste of Ireland.

At Mrs. Anderson's morning concert, at Her Majesty's Theatre, on Monday, an opportunity occurred of hearing some of the great singers of the season, Clara Novello, Piccolomini, Johanna Wagner, Alboni. The instrumental as well as the vocal music was of high order, and the programme included pieces in which the several performers appeared to great advantage; Piccolomini, for instance, giving a scena from *La Traviata*, Johanna Wagner singing 'The Wanderer' of Schubert, and Alboni encored in the 'Non piu mesta.' Mrs. An-

derson's performance of Hummel's concerto was in her best style, and the concert altogether gave much satisfaction.

A *soirée musicale* was given at the Hanover Rooms, on Thursday, by Miss Sherrington, assisted by Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, M. Lemmens, and Mr. Lindsay Sloper. In Handel's grand air, 'Rejoice greatly,' and in two of Schubert's romances, the fine talent of Miss Sherrington, in different styles, was displayed. The beautiful duet, 'Mira la bianca luna,' was sung charmingly by Miss Sherrington and Mr. Sims Reeves. The pianoforte performances of M. Lemmens (Professeur au Conservatoire Royal de Bruxelles) formed the prominent feature of the concert. Pieces of Weber, Beethoven, Bach, and other composers, were executed from memory in a masterly style.

The presence of Madame Ristori seems to have given an impulse to the study of Italian literature in London. Several lectures illustrative of the Italian drama have been delivered, with special references to the characters in which the great actress has gained her celebrity. Two lectures by Signor Arrivabene have presented to an appreciating audience a series of readings and remarks, concluding with an eloquent peroration on the present political, as well as artistic and literary condition of Italy.

The well-known musical publishers of Leipzig, Messieurs Breitkopf and Härtel, have announced their intention of bringing out a complete edition of all Handel's works, to be ready on the 14th of April, 1859, the hundredth anniversary of the great composer's decease. The duke of Gotha has shown great interest in this undertaking, and promised sympathy and help. In the university town of Halle, in which the great musician was born, it is in contemplation to mark the event by the erection of a monument.

Molière's 'Amphitryon,' after being neglected for many years, has been revived at the Théâtre Français at Paris; but in spite of all the efforts of the *élite* of the *troupe* it has obtained very indifferent success. The style, the subject, and the personages have all failed to please.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—June 6th.—Hon. R. C. Neville, V.P.—Mr. Kemble gave the concluding section of his remarkable 'Discourses on the Mortuary Customs of Scandinavia,' as compared with those of the early inhabitants of Britain and other European countries. His observations related to the various plants, fruits, &c., found in connexion with the pagan interments of the Northern nations, as also to their stone-worship. The hazel-twig was used in early times with certain superstitious notions, still to be traced even in our own age in the divining rod, employed in Cornwall and other parts for discovery of metals or of springs of water. Hazel-nuts, and occasionally walnuts, had been found deposited in the hand of the skeleton, of which instances had occurred in the course of Mr. Kemble's own researches. In regard to veneration shown to stones, and sites marked thereby, a large circle of stones appeared to have enclosed a place of combat or of judgment. With this was connected a large stone, the stone of Thor, god of thunder, upon which the criminal and the vanquished were slain or sacrificed, by breaking the spine. Mr. Kemble quoted many legends in illustration of this curious subject. Large circles of stones were regarded as persons—for instance, a nuptial procession turned into stone during a thunderstorm. He concluded, by earnestly advocating the careful record of all evidence tending to throw light upon the obscure customs of the earlier periods, and to establish our opinions upon a more secure basis.—The Hon. R. Neville gave a short notice of the discovery of several vessels of glass, with other reliques, and a coin of Cunobeline, in a square leaden cist, placed in a natural hillock, called Metal-hill, at Meldreth, Cambridgeshire. The name, he suggested, may be identical with that of Mutlow-hill, a tumulus at the Fleam-dyke,

which he had excavated in 1852; and Myrtle-hill, at Wenden, Essex, was originally Muttiflow. Metal may, however, have some allusion to the popular tradition of concealed treasure.—Mr. W. Wynne, M.P., gave an account of a singular wooden font, as supposed, found in a turbarie in Merionethshire, and now in the possession of Lord Mostyn, at Pengeveru. It is of oak, rudely shaped with the axe; its proportions suggest the notion that it may have served for baptism, and on the margin is inscribed the word 'Athrywyn,' which may signify to reconcile, or happiness, pacification, in allusion to the virtue of the Holy Sacrament. Wooden fonts are of rare occurrence; Mr. Wynne had noticed one near Ruthin, and there is one in Chobham church, Surrey.—Mr. F. Carrington read a memoir 'On the Ancient Punishment for Scolds by the Branks,' or gag, in form of a sort of cage or frame enclosing the head of the offender. He traced this barbarous usage to the seventeenth century, when it appears to have superseded the more primitive punishment of the cucking-stool. He mentioned various places where record of such punishment is found, or where the branks is preserved, and he exhibited one, which must have effectually quelled the virulence of the ternaunt. There are branks still preserved at Walsall, Lichfield, Worcester, Shrewsbury, and other towns; at Walton-on-Thames one exists, with an inscription recording that it was presented to that place by Chester.—Mr. R. Caton gave a description of a remarkable sun-dial on the terrace of the fine old timbered mansion, called Park Hall, near Oswestry, and he sent some notices of ancient remains near Offa's and Wat's dykes, in the same locality.—Mr. Way brought an account of a hoard of gold armlets and ornaments of very unusual fashion, in Anglesa. The ornaments, of unknown use, resemble some found in Ireland, but of great rarity; they may have been brought to Mona during the frequent visits of the Irish to its coasts in early times.—Mr. Randal, of Shrewsbury, presented a cast from an inscribed slab of Purbeck marble, lately found in that town. It promises a hundred days of pardon to those who should pray for a lady named Alice Lestrange, who has not been identified. The fragment was probably part of a canopied tomb or chantry chapel. Some fragments of Saxon work, of silver, one of them set with a Roman family coin, were sent from Norfolk by Mr. Carthew.—Mr. Brackstone exhibited some Egyptian bronzes, Irish and Anglo-Saxon antiquities, and two fine swords of the period of the civil wars.—The Rev. W. Sneyd brought a curious cup, supposed to be of the horn of the rhinoceros, of virtue against poison; it had belonged to the Countess of Ormonde, in the reign of James I.—Mr. Evelyn Shirley, M.P., brought some Irish antiquities and ancient documents.—Mr. Octavius Morgan produced some ancient plate, and a collection of ecclesiastical and other rings, of very rich workmanship.—Miss Kymer, of Reading, sent an extensive series of drawings of the painted glass, sculpture, and architectural details of Fairford church, Gloucestershire.—Information was given by Mr. H. King, of the recent discovery of several mural paintings in the church of Hadleigh, Essex; it is feared that their preservation will prove impracticable, but faithful copies, it may be hoped, will be preserved, through the active endeavours of the Essex Archaeological Society.—The meetings of the Institute for the present session having terminated, it was announced that the Annual Meeting in Edinburgh would commence on July 22nd, and that the preparations promised every prospect of a successful gathering. The use of the National Gallery had been granted by the Treasury for the Museum of the Institute, for which an extensive provision of Scottish antiquities and historical reliques is already in expectation.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—May 28th.—S. R. Solly, F.R.S., in the chair.—Thomas Wills, Esq., F. B. Tussaud, Esq., and F. Howard Taylor, Esq., were elected Associates. Mr. Wills exhibited a variety of Roman antiquities from his museum, which had been found at Dorchester

and read a short paper descriptive of them. They were chiefly discovered near Maiden Castle, about a mile to the south-west of Dorchester. They consisted of a bronze osculum, representing a full-faced male bust, wearing a pointed pileus, or cap surmounted by a loop; a vine leaf in bronze, being probably part of a votive offering to Bacchus; a dragon, which was thought to be late Saxon or early Norman workmanship; a bow of a Roman fibula; various coins, &c. &c. Mr. Wills also exhibited a mask of Diana, of very fine manufacture, found in a sewer on Holborn-hill, on the 16th May last. Capt. Tupper exhibited a carved ivory presidential hammer of the time of Charles II. It had the arms of the Merchant Taylors engraved on it, and had been the gift of Thomas Roberts in 1679. He also exhibited an iron key of the fifteenth century, of English manufacture, dug up at the Temple of Victory at Athens. Mr. Syer Cuming read a paper 'On Offertory Dishes,' and exhibited some fine specimens in illustration of his communication. The German and Scandinavian archaeologists call them *taufbecken*, or baptismal dishes. They were chiefly of latten, well gilt, and with legends and devices. The legends are mostly in German, rarely in Latin, and are either invocations to the Virgin and saints, or sentences from scripture. The devices are principally representations of Adam and Eve, the spies with the grapes of Eshcol, the crucifixion, St. Christopher, St. George, &c., and a few other sacred and legendary subjects. Mr. Wills exhibited a specimen found in Dorsetshire in 1852. Mr. Cuming produced a specimen of the sixteenth century with a rare device, being that of a doe, *cervant*, surrounded by branches with bay-leaves and fruit, intended, as he suspected, for a punning rebus of the name of Dorcas, "full of good works and almsdeeds." Such a conceit appears in unison with the practice of the artists of the time, who introduced burlesque designs in church decorations. A beautiful offertory dish, from one of the City churches, was brought as a specimen of the time of Charles I. It was of brass, and stoutly plated with silver. In the centre is a medallion, two and a quarter inches in diameter, set in a raised godron circle, bearing the royal arms within the garter, supported by the lion and unicorn, and surmounted by the crest and C. R. The devices are of polished brass, with the field and tinctures filled with coloured enamels, presenting a very chaste and beautiful appearance. Mr. Eaton exhibited a piece of oak timber, which had been submerged upwards of 650 years. It was from the old bridge of Totnes, and had suffered but slight decay on the exterior part. Mr. Pettigrew read a paper 'On the Antiquities of Cuma,' and exhibited a beautiful glass vase, a tooth-comb, and other antiquities obtained from thence by Mr. Wansey. The object of the paper was to treat of the waxen heads found in a tomb at Cuma, by H.R.H. the Prince of Syracuse, of which he exhibited a drawing. Mr. P. traced the history of moulding in wax among the Romans, and considered the discovery as belonging to Christian martyrs of the third or fourth century. The paper is to be printed with illustrations. Mr. Wansey, who had attended the Prince in some of his excavations, gave a lively account of the proceedings.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—June 2nd.—W. Wilson Saunders, Esq., President, in the chair. Mr. Bond exhibited a remarkable specimen of *Biston hirtarius*, having the wings and abdomen of the female, while the antennæ nearly resembled those of the male, but less deeply pectinated; this singular monstrosity was found in the Regent's Park. Mr. Stevens exhibited young larvæ of three of the rarest British *Bombicidae*—viz., *Pelasia nubeculosa*, *Notodonta carmelita*, and *N. dictaoides*; also a box of insects sent by Mr. Bates from Ega, Upper Amazons, containing *Papilio Pausanias*, *Callithea Batesii*, *Huctera Andromeda*, *Megacephala Klugii*, and other fine species. Mr. Douglas exhibited *Cryptocephalus coryli*, from West Wickham wood; *Libia cruzminor*, from Holme Bush, near Brighton; *Endomychus coccineus*, *Platyrhinus latirostris*, and *Biphylus lunatus*, from Stapleton, near Bristol;

also larvæ of an apparently new species of *Coleophora*, found by Mr. G. Wailes at Newcastle, on *Genista Anglica*. Mr. F. Smith exhibited *Platyrhinus latirostris*, from Scotland. Mr. Stevens exhibited drawings of the larva and pupa of *Adgestes Bennetti*, from specimens lately found by him near Sheerness on *Statia linonum*. Captain Cox mentioned that he had recently found a pupa of *Smerinthus tilie*, enclosed in a cocoon formed of silk and particles of wood, under the loose bark of a plane tree, several feet from the ground, a singular deviation from the usual habit of the insect. Mr. Armitage exhibited some *Coleoptera* taken by him in the south of France, including *Bolboceus Gallicos* and *Callicnemis Latreillii*. The President exhibited some drawings of the larvæ and pupæ of *Lepidoptera* from Port Natal, and read descriptions of new species. Mr. Adam White read descriptions of some new species of *Homoptera* from Borneo and Celebes. Mr. Westwood read some notes on the wing-veins of insects.

ZOOLOGICAL.—June 10th.—Dr. Gray, F.R.S., in the chair. Mr. Gould exhibited and described two new species of Humming Birds, of the genus *Amazilia*, from Cordova in Mexico, and from Santa Fe de Bogota. Mr. Gaskoin read a paper 'On some defects in the growth of the Antlers, relative to lateral influence,' and some results of castration in the *Cervidae*. Mr. P. L. Slater laid before the meeting the third and last part of his 'Synopsis *Avium Tanagarinarum*,' a descriptive catalogue of the known species of Tanagers. Mr. Slater also laid before the meeting a table showing the geographic range of this family of birds, and their distribution in the New World, and exhibited a specimen of a very beautifully coloured species of the genus *Diglossa*, which he had lately described under the name of *D. indigotica*. The Secretary read papers by Mr. Philip P. Carpenter, giving descriptions of new species of Shells collected by Mr. Bridges in the Bay of Panama and its vicinity, and of new species of *Calyptraeida*, *Trichida*, and *Pyramidellida*, principally in the collection of Hugh Cuming, Esq. Mr. Holdsworth read a paper on a new species of *Actinia* from the Devonshire coast, which he characterised under the name of *A. Vinosa*.

ASTRONOMICAL.—May 9th.—Manuel J. Johnson, Esq., President, in the chair. The following communications are recorded:—1. 'Discovery of a New Planet,' by M. Goldschmidt. 2. 'Observations of Double Stars taken at Madras in 1854-56,' by Mr. Eyre B. Powell. 3. 'Observed Right Ascensions and North Polar Distances of recently discovered small Planets at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.' 4. 'Note on Variable Stars,' by Mr. A. D. Wackerbarth. 5. 'Description of an Observatory erected at Upper Tulase Hill,' by Mr. Huggins. 6. 'Observations of Planets at the Cambridge Observatory.' 7. 'Astronomical and Meteorological Observations made at the Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford, in the year 1854, under the superintendence of Manuel J. Johnson, M.A.' 8. Abstract of a Note by M. Plana on the correction of an error in his 'Théorie du Mouvement de la Lune.' 9. 'Description of the Observatory of the Collegio Romano.' 10. 'Catalogue of fifty-three Variable Stars, with Notes,' by Mr. Norman Pogson. 11. 'Note on the Telescopic Appearance of the Planet Mars,' by the Rev. T. W. Webb. 12. 'Elements of Harmonia,' by M. C. F. Pape. 13. 'Solar Spots observed by Captain Shee.' 14. 'Proposed Physico-Astronomical Observations on the Summit of the Peak of Teneriffe.' 15. 'Proposed Division of Labour with respect to the Observations of the Minor Planets,' by Lieut. Maury.

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES.—June 7th.—Annual General Meeting.—C. Jellicoe, Esq., V.-P., in the chair. Mr. Hill Williams, one of the Honorary Secretaries, read the Report on the progress of the Institute during the past year, also an abstract of the receipts and payments for the financial year ending the 31st of March last. The balance in

favour of the Institute was somewhat larger than that of the preceding year. The library continued to be augmented by donations from various quarters. During the session six papers had been read on subjects connected with Life Assurance, five of which have already appeared in the Journal of the Institute, and the sixth is to appear in the next number. The extension of the number of the Council had been found to work well; the meetings had been larger, and more information on professional subjects had been received and communicated. A "Faculty of Actuaries" had been formed in Edinburgh, with every prospect of a successful career, and a similar association for Germany is now being formed at Hamburg. A course of three lectures 'On the Principles of Life Assurance' had been delivered by Mr. Hardy, for the benefit of the junior members. The Report and Financial Abstract were adopted, and a ballot having taken place for the President and Officers for the year ensuing, the following was declared to be the list:—President, John Finlaison, Esq.; Vice-Presidents, Samuel Brown, Edwin James Farren, Peter Hardy, and William Barwick Hodge, Esqs.; Treasurer, John Laurence, Esq.; Honorary Secretaries, John Reddish, and John Hill Williams, Esqs.

ANTIQUARIES.—June 12th.—Edward Hawkins, Esq., V.P., in the chair. The Rev. Thomas Hugo exhibited several examples of Pilgrims' Signs in lead, found in the Thames. A communication from the Earl of Clarendon was read, accompanying a report from Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, on excavations which had been made on the site of the Hippodrome at Constantinople. Several shafts had been sunk, and the bases of three columns had been laid bare to their foundations, but, with the exception of three coins, no other ancient remains had been brought to light. The thanks of the Society were unanimously voted to Lord Clarendon and Lord Stratford de Redcliffe for their report. Mr. Shirley, M.P., Local Secretary for Warwickshire, exhibited a very interesting example of a purse of the early part of the seventeenth century. This relic is formed of embroidered velvet, with a steel (inlaid with gold) handle and clasp. Mr. W. M. Wylie communicated a translation of a report by the Abbé Cochet, on some further discoveries of Lead Crosses with the formula of absolution, in the ancient cemetery of Bouteilles, near Dieppe. Mr. Parker read 'An Account of Early Churches of France and Switzerland, partly of the time of Charlemagne,' which was illustrated by numerous drawings executed by M. Bouet.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY.—April 8th, at Dublin.—Mr. R. Littledale read a paper 'On the Application of Colour to the Decoration of Churches.' After a brief apology for the principle, he proceeded to lay down general rules for the regulation of colour, pointing out what hues could be fitly combined, and in what manner. He stated that from the humidity of this climate no kind of polychrome was practicable for the exterior of churches, except that produced by the employment of variously-coloured bricks, as in All Saints' Church, St. Marylebone; and that he regarded the experiment of adorning the roof with mosaic, which has been tried in Munich, as unsuccessful. He then described the different modes of decorating the internal part of the roof, according as it presented an arched, laqueated, or flat surface, illustrating his remarks by reference to several English and continental churches. Passing thence to the consideration of stained glass, he argued for its extreme importance by comparing the present aspect of those Belgian cathedrals, whose windows were destroyed by the Iconoclasts, with that of such churches as have retained their painted lights, as in Canterbury, Bourges, and Strasburg. He mentioned the chief diversities of style visible in this branch of art, and their several applicability, together with the laws which should govern the selection of a design and the mode of tinting. Proceeding to discuss the decoration of the walls,

he described the three systems adopted for this purpose, viz., mosaic, fresco, and hangings. After giving a cursory outline of the history of the second of these, he expressed his opinion that the modern Munich school, or rather the old Nether-Rhenish, which it copies, formed the best model for imitation in Anglican buildings when the delineation of figures is intended; but that where the stained glass windows formed the leading feature of the interior, simple diaper or arabesque patterns should be employed, and, conversely, that white pattern windows should be conjoined with figure frescoes. In speaking of texts as a means of ornamenting walls, he alluded to the error of placing the decalogue on the chancel wall, instead of its fitting place, the spaces of the nave-wall on either side of the chancel arch. He concluded this portion of his paper by describing the best manner of employing encaustic tiles for the flooring, and of adorning the various articles of church furniture, such as the seats, font, pulpit, &c., and then pointed out how these canons of colouring might be applied successfully to a building devoid of architectural merit, as has been recently effected at St. Mary's, Crown-street, Soho. At the close of his remarks he offered a suggestion for the decoration of churches too poor to admit the expense of fresco-painting, stating that as we had substituted paper-hangings for tapestry in our private houses, a similar use might be made of them for churches, since they might be rich in hue and be designed by competent artists, and besides would be very durable, as not being liable to the causes which hasten their decay in general, such as friction, excessive light, or the deposit of soot; and that for all these reasons it was desirable that the subject should be investigated by skilful ecclesiologists. A paper was also read 'On the Pile of Ancient Buildings at St. Douloughs, near Dublin,' in which Mr. Sloane, C.E., attempted to show that the building, commonly known as St. Doulough's Church, is of the style of the thirteenth century, and not, as some writers have stated, of style coeval with the erection of the chapel of Cormac M'Cullenan, on the rock of Cashel, in 901. To support his views, and afford a correct idea of the building, Mr. S. exhibited a set of eight drawings, geometrical and perspective, from actual measurements made by him, of the singular structure, which in its small space contains seven apartments and three staircases. He also exhibited a plan and view of the well-building and its surrounding court, which is evidently of a much earlier date than the church which it adjoins, and is considered by Mr. Sloane to be a baptistery. At one end of the court is a rectangular hollow supplied from the well, having at one side a bench, on which the minister may have stood, and this hollow has, on three sides of the court surrounding it, seats for the catechumens, or those who were present at the celebration. One of the drawings comprehended details of the windows, piscina, &c., of the church.

LINNEAN.—June 3rd.—Thomas Bell, Esq., President, in the chair. John Ball, Esq., M.P.; W. B. Carpenter, M.D.; R. S. Hill Esq.; John Garland, Esq.; and W. H. Holdsworth, Esq., were proposed as Fellows, and Mr. William Penney was elected an Associate. Mr. Westwood made some observations on the Lepidopterous insects infesting the sugar-canes in the island of Mauritius, and greatly diminishing their saccharine products; and a conversation followed between the Members present, on the best means of destroying the insect, and thereby preventing its ravages. Read a Note 'On the Development of Fungi upon Patna Opium,' by the Rev. M. J. Berkeley, M.A.

STATISTICAL.—June 16th.—Thomas Tooke, Esq., V.P., in the chair. William Carr, Esq., and Hyde Clarke, Esq., D.C.L., were elected Fellows. A paper was read, written by Samuel Fenwick, Esq., M.D., of Tynemouth, upon 'The Effects of Overcrowding and Want of Ventilation upon Cholera.'

After thanks had been voted to Dr. Fenwick, the discussion on Mr. Hendrik's paper, 'On the Losses sustained by Government in granting Annuities,' was resumed.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday—Geographical, 8½.—(1. Central Africa. By W. D. Cooley, Esq. 2. The Longitude of the Quango, by Dr. Livingston, and News of his Arrival at Teté, near Quillimane, on the East Coast. 3. The Landfall of Columbus. By Capt. Beecher, R.N. 4. Route between Kustenejé and the Danube. By Capt. Spratt, R.N. 5. Journey in Nicomedia and Palestine. By Henry Poole, Esq.)
Architectural Museum, 8 p.m.—J. K. Colling, Esq., On the Application of Natural Foliage to Architecture.
Society of Arts, 12 a.m.—(Conference of Representatives of Institutions in Union.)
Tuesday—Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ p.m.
Zoological, 9 p.m.
Society of Arts, 4½ p.m.—(One Hundred and Second Anniversary Dinner at the Crystal Palace.)
Wednesday—R. S. Literature, 8½ p.m.
Society of Arts, 4 p.m.—(Annual General Meeting.)
Thursday—Numismatic, 7 p.m.
Saturday—Botanic, 4 p.m.

VARIETIES.

Dr. Choules' Library.—When the death of the late Dr. Choules was announced, after the many expressions of genuine regret for the loss of so good and genial a man and so ripe a scholar had been uttered, the common question among the lovers of rare books, of which he was known to possess many, was what will become of his library! The fate of the deceased clergyman's library was become a matter of considerable interest in literary circles, and it was hoped that at least some portion of it, especially his unique collection of works relative to Cromwell and the fine old editions of the English Divines, would be placed in some one of our University or Theological Libraries. This, however, was not found practicable. The library has been sold at auction by Messrs. Leavitt, Delisser, and Co., and the books which the Doctor collected with so much care have been scattered. We have before us the catalogue of his library. It is an octavo volume of 118 pages, containing over 2123 various lots—comprising books in nearly every department of knowledge. The sale commenced on last Monday week, May 19th, and continued for six days. Scarce and valuable works, especially on this country, realized fair, and in some few instances very high prices. What, however, particularly struck us was the low prices at which the works on Cromwell and Theology sold for—and this, the largest proportion of his library, did not bring half its value.—*New York Criterion*.

Electro-Telegraphic Progress.—Mr. J. Jones, of St. Asaph, Flint, has obtained provisional protection for improvements in telegraphs, by which a *fac simile* of the message is recorded simultaneously on the transmitting and receiving instruments, so that the sender may know immediately, and without the trouble of repeating, whether his message has reached its destination correctly.—Mr. Thomas Allen, of London, C.E., has prepared a telegraphic wire of iron insulated with a new flexible material, sufficiently strong, it is said, to afford full protection, the whole weighing in some cases as little as one-tenth of the common wire, though having a conducting power three or even five-fold greater, while the relative proportion of strength in the wire is increased to a considerable degree.—Mr. William Brown, of Australia, has made an offer to the Government to erect an electric telegraph from Mount Louis to Hobart Town, thence to Launceston and George Town, and to complete the whole within nine months from signing the contract, for 16,000£.—The screw-steamer, *Propontis*, Captain Goodwin, was lately at Queenstown, with the submarine electric cable to be laid down between Cape Ray, Newfoundland, and Cape North, Breton Island. The length of this cable is eighty-five miles, and its weight 170 tons. She has also on board the cable to be laid down between Cape Traverse Prince Edward's Island, and Cape Formantino, New Brunswick—length 13 miles, and weight 30 tons. The cables were manufactured and are to be laid down by Messrs. W. Kuper and Co., of London, under direction of Mr. Canning, who, with his assistants, is on board.—*Builder*.

EDINBURGH NEW PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL.

Advertisements for insertion in the JULY NUMBER of the above, must reach the Publishers by the 5th instant.
Edinburgh: Adam and Charles Black.

NOTICE TO BOOKBUYERS.

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TO ADVERTISERS.—The Journal of the Kilkenny and South-east of Ireland Archaeological Society is transmitted regularly by post to over 650 members in Great Britain and Ireland six times in the year. Advertisements and bills received by the publishers, Messrs. M'GLASHAN and GILL, 50, Upper Sackville Street, Dublin, before the 27th of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Impression, 850 copies.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR OBTAINING A UNIFORM DECIMAL SYSTEM OF MEASURES, WEIGHTS, AND COINS.—A Conference with the Delegates of Library and Scientific Institutions, in union with the Society of Arts, will be held (by permission of the Council of that body) in their house, 19, JOHN STREET, ADELPHI, on MONDAY evening, the 23rd June, at 8 o'clock.

Cards for admission may be had at the above address on application.

H. A. DARRISHIRE, } Hon. Secs.
T. C. MOSSOM MEEKINS, }

ESTABLISHED 1838.

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NOTICE.

In order to remove any apprehension that might be entertained as to the perfect Security of the Policies granted by the PELICAN LIFE OFFICE, the Directors have omitted every clause that would render them void by reason of any error in the Statements made by the Assured before or at the time of effecting an Insurance.

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UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Chairman.

CHARLES DOWNES, Esq.

Deputy Chairman.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

LANDED PROPRIETORS, TENANTS, FARMERS, and AGRICULTURISTS generally, are invited to examine the Tables of Rates of the UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Established in 1834, which will be found more advantageous than those of most other Companies; at the same time, Parties insuring with it do not incur the risk of Co-partnership, as is the case in mutual Offices.
Upwards of Five Hundred and Ninety-one Thousand Pounds (including Bonuses) have been paid to Widows, Children, and other parties holding Policies with this Company, which have become claims by death since its formation.
Thirteen Thousand Pounds per annum has been the average of new Premiums during the last seven years.
The Annual Income exceeds One Hundred and Twenty-five Thousand Pounds.
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All Forms of Proposals, &c., to be had, on application, at the office, 8, WATERLOO PLACE, Pall Mall, London; or from the Agents established in all the large Towns of the Kingdom.

E. L. BOYD, Resident Director.

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

ESTABLISHED 1831.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above SOCIETY was held in EDINBURGH on the 6th May. The Report by the Directors stated that the number of policies issued during the year ending 1st March last, was 638, the sums assured thereby being £293,950, and the annual premiums thereon £91,200.

The result of the investigation for the triennial division of profits was then announced. The surplus ascertained to have arisen amounted to £183,539, which wholly belongs to the members, but of which one-third (£61,179) must, by the laws of the Society, be set aside as a reserve for allocation at the next triennial division in 1859.

From the remaining two-thirds a Bonus was declared at the rate of 14 per cent. per annum, on all policies on which six premiums had been paid, not only on the sums in the policies, but also on the former vested bonuses.

There was left, in addition to £61,179 of reserve above stated, a surplus of £13,623, together £74,802, to go to the next division.

The INVESTED FUNDS of the Society amount to £279,561
The ANNUAL REVENUE to £169,400
The EXISTING ASSURANCES to £4,764,549

Copies of the Report may be obtained at the Society's head office, 25, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh; at the London Office, 125, Bishopsgate Street Within, and at any of the agencies.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, Manager.
ARCHIBALD T. RITCHIE, London Agent.

NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY.

CAPITAL, £2,195,271.

PRESIDENT—Lieut.-Gen. Sir R. J. HARVEY, C.B.

SECRETARY—Sir SAMUEL BIGNOLD, M.P.

LONDON AGENT—C. J. BUNYON, Esq.

This Society has been established Forty-seven years, during which period it has issued 29,344 Policies, and paid to the representatives of 5538 deceased members upwards of £1,431,044; and £1,934,348 sterling has been assigned by way of Bonuses.

To meet existing engagements, the Society possesses funds amounting to nearly Two Millions Two Hundred Thousand POUNDS STERLING.

There is no Proprietary to divide with the Assured the profits of this Institution, which is one of the very few purely Mutual Insurance Offices.

The Rates of Premium are below those of most offices, and, at the age of 45 upwards, not less than 10 per cent.—a benefit in itself equivalent to an Annual Bonus.

One-half of the first five Annual Premiums may remain as a permanent charge upon the Policies granted for the whole duration of life.

No charge is made for Policy Stamp.
Annuities are granted upon favourable terms.
The rates for Survivorship and Special Contract Insurances have been lately greatly reduced.

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LAW LIFE ASSURANCE OFFICE, FLEET STREET, LONDON.

May 24, 1856.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in conformity with the provisions of the Deed of Settlement, a GENERAL MEETING of PROPRIETORS will be held at the Society's Office, Fleet Street, London, on TUESDAY, the 24th day of JUNE next, at Twelve o'clock at noon precisely, to elect a DIRECTOR in the room of William Chisholme, Esq., deceased: to elect FIVE other DIRECTORS, and TWO AUDITORS, when those who go out of office by rotation will be proposed for Re-Election: and also for general purposes.

The Director to be chosen in the room of William Chisholme, Esq., will remain in office until the 24th day of June, 1860.

By order of the Directors,
WILLIAM SAMUEL DOWNES, Actuary.

THE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

39, KING STREET, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1834.

This is a purely Mutual Life Assurance Society, with a Capital of £250,000, invested in Government and Real Securities, created entirely by the steady accumulation of the Premiums, and all belonging to the Members. The Assurances in force are £1,250,000, and the Income £50,000 per annum.

Detailed Prospectuses and Forms of Proposal, together with the List of Bonuses paid on claims in 1855, and the Office Accounts for the same year, will be given on a written or personal application.

CHARLES INGALL, Actuary.

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FLORA OF NEW ZEALAND.

By JOSEPH DALTON HOOKER, M.D., F.R.S.

Published under the Authority of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY having been pleased to direct that the *Botany of the Antarctic Voyage* should be continued and completed with Floras of New Zealand and Van Diemen's Land, instructions have been given to Dr. HOOKER to prepare these works uniformly with the *Antarctic Flora* concluded in 1847.

THE FLORA OF NEW ZEALAND, now completed, contains descriptions in English and Latin, with copious observations, Botanical, Geographical, and Economical, (in English,) of the genera and species of Flowering Plants and Ferns which are known to inhabit the New Zealand Islands. A synopsis of the Mosses, *Jungermannia*, Seaweeds, Fungi, and Lichens is added, and the work is illustrated with a hundred and twenty-one quarto lithographic plates, beautifully coloured.

Materials for this important work have been gradually accumulating since the voyages of Captain Cook, in the form of specimens and drawings, some of which have long been available to science in our Museums, although many of them have hitherto remained unpublished. Of these the most valuable are contained in the British Museum and the Herbarium of Sir W. J. Hooker, and consist of,—

1. The collections of Banks and Solander in Cook's first voyage (in 1769 and 1770), and of the Forsters in Cook's second voyage (1773 and 1777), which, together with a magnificent series of drawings, are deposited in the British Museum.
2. The plants of Mr. Menzies procured in Dusky Bay when on Captain Vancouver's voyage (1791), of which the greater part are preserved in the Hookerian Herbarium.
3. The collections of the brothers Allan and Richard Cunningham, who visited the northern parts of the Northern Island only: Allan Cunningham in 1826, and Richard in 1833. From these the '*Prodromus Floræ Novæ Zelandiæ*' of Allan Cunningham was mainly compiled. They are preserved in the Herbarium of Mr. Heward, who has liberally placed them in Dr. Hooker's hands for examination.
4. Contributions from various occasional visitors to the Northern Island between the years 1825 and 1845, especially from Mr. Frazer, Dr. Logan, Mr. Edgerley, and Mr. Stephenson.
5. Those of the Antarctic Expedition in the Bay of Islands, in 1842.
6. Very extensive collections formed on various parts of the coast and interior of the Northern Island by the Rev. W. Colenso, and Messrs. Bidwell and Dieffenbach; by the former especially, who has assiduously devoted himself to Botany during many years of Missionary labours. These explorers alone have reached the mountains and lakes in the interior of the Northern Island, and greatly enriched our Flora. Mr. Bidwell has also formed collections of great rarity and value in the northern parts of the Middle Island.
7. An extensive collection formed partly at the Bay of Islands, but especially at Banks' Peninsula on the Middle Island, by M. Raoul, during the voyage of the French frigate *L'Aube*, and which are catalogued in M. Raoul's '*Choix de Plantes de la Nouvelle Zélande*,' with descriptions and figures of some new species. This Herbarium is preserved in the Paris Museum, from which a complete collection was transmitted to Sir W. Hooker's Herbarium.
8. Very large and valuable collections formed at the Bay of Islands and at Auckland, by Dr. Sinclair, Colonial Secretary.
9. Lastly, a beautiful and very extensive Herbarium made by Dr. Lyall, Surgeon and Naturalist of H.M.St.V. Acheron, during her survey of the coasts, especially of the Middle and Southern Islands, in 1847-51. This collection contains many important additions from Dusky Bay, which had not been visited since Vancouver's voyage; and from other ports previously unexplored. The collection of nearly 250 kinds of Seaweeds procured by Dr. Lyall is of the greatest beauty and value.

These materials give a Flora of fully seven hundred flowering-plants and ferns, including the magnificent timber-trees, pines, &c., of the Islands; and there is a greater number of Cryptogamic Plants, whose determination has been undertaken:—

Jungermannia, by W. MITTEN, Esq.

Fungi, by the Rev. M. J. BERKELEY, M.A.

Mosses, by W. WILSON, Esq.

Seaweeds, by Dr. HARVEY.

Lichens, by the Rev. CHURCHILL BABINGTON, M.A.

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